

No 61,616

20p

Monday

Brighton... Pearce Wright previews the most popular event in the scientific calendar...

Rock... Modern Times dons crepe-soled shoes to venture into the parts that Rock 'n' Roll still reaches.

Man... Spectrum on the sometimes horrifying way in which man exploits the monkey.



... and Superman... Is America's foreign policy designed mainly to ensure the reelection of President Reagan?

Downhill... Pat Healy examines in a two-part series the impact of cuts in health service spending.

... Racer... European Cup athletics at Crystal Palace.

New wave of rioting in Pakistan

Anti-martial-law protestors tore up 500 yards of railway lines in Pakistan's Sind province as part of the civil disobedience campaign launched on Sunday.

Kidnap hunt... Police officers in co Donagay were hunting a kidnap gang as fears grew for the safety of an informer's wife being held by the Irish National Liberation Army.

Rebel realism... Leaders of US-backed insurgents in Nicaragua admit they cannot win a military victory.

US recovery... The American economy is recovering faster than expected, according to figures which show that between April and June gross national product expanded at a rate of 9.2 per cent.

Tripoli blast... Thirty people were injured when a car bomb exploded near a hospital in Tripoli, Lebanon, the second blast there in less than a month.

Looters held... about 120 people were arrested for looting in Houston and Galveston after Hurricane Alicia struck southern Texas.

Chess champion... Jonathan Mestel, the Cambridge University player, won the Griesonian Grant British chess championships at Southampton, repeating his triumph of 1976.

Boycott rebuked... Geoffrey Boycott has been reprimanded by Yorkshire for slow scoring against Gloucestershire at Cheltenham last Saturday.

Table with 2 columns: Home News, Letters. Rows include Overseas, Arts, Business, Chess, Crossword, Diary, Events, Letters, Religion, Science, Services, Sport, TV & Radio, Transport, Unemployment, Weather, With.

Kinnock likely to block Benn's return to power

By Phillip Webster, Political Reporter

Attempts by the far left to restore Mr Wedgwood Benn to his power base inside the Labour Party are expected to be frustrated by Mr Neil Kinnock after his likely election as leader in October.

The national executive committee (NEC) elections, at the party conference are almost certain to result in gains for the outside or 'serious' left, but not enough to give them overall control.

Mr Benn would be assured of the post if he had the support of the soft left, led by Mr Kinnock, but MPs close to the leadership front-runner believe it highly unlikely that he would back Mr Benn.

Russians to develop new mobile missile

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Soviet Union is planning to develop a mobile intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) as a way of protecting the backbone of its nuclear forces from new missile systems being developed by the US.

The official, whose name cannot be given, but who is closely involved in the negotiations, said the Russians were concerned their forces were becoming increasingly vulnerable to new US land-based MX and submarine-launched Trident missiles.

The Soviet move will have implications for British defence strategy, as Britain is planning to replace its Polaris nuclear deterrent with Trident 2 missiles during the 1990s.

However, British defence experts said the Soviet move would have only limited impact on Britain because the Royal Navy's Trident fleet would be a deterrent of last resort.

Embassy bomb attempt

Continued on back page, col 5

A man forced his way past police guards into the British Embassy here yesterday in a car containing a home-made bomb. Richard Owen writes from Moscow.

It was not clear whether the man had intended to blow up the embassy building or to use the bomb - described as a small device - in case he was stopped at the gates.

Blow restores blind man's sight



Mr Willis with Jason, who was three weeks' old when his father went blind.

A woman has restored her blind husband's sight by hitting him on the head with a plastic bucket. Mr Kevin Willis, aged 28, of Newark, Nottinghamshire, became blind a year ago when a nerve condition which doctors were unable to cure attacked his left eye.

First French casualty killed by mine explosion in Chad

By Leslie Plummer

The French forces in Chad have suffered their first casualty. The Times has learnt. The death, which occurred this week near Abéché, where French forces have one of their forward positions north-east of the capital, Ndjamena, happened when a soldier stepped on a mine.

It is not known whether it was planted by the Libyan-backed rebel forces of the former Chadian president, Mr Goukouni Oueddei, or by forward units of the French forces themselves.

Probing by such units this week has produced firm evidence of the presence of 762 tanks from Libya in rebel areas, one source has disclosed.

The French failure to announce the death indicates, first, a reluctance to upset diplomatic efforts to settle the Chad conflict, in which Mr Oueddei's forces are seeking to overthrow the government of President Hissène Habré, and second, that the body has been returned to France officially classified as a fatality among the French peace-keeping forces in Lebanon.

Security guard shot dead in Tube raid

By Michael Horsnell

A security guard was shot dead outside Belzize Park Underground station, north-west London, yesterday after collecting £9,964 from the booking office.

Mr Peter Clark, aged 52, of Matlock Road, Waltham Forest, east London, was hit by a shot-off shotgun as he was about to load three money bags into a van for deposit in a local bank.

Two raiders, both white and believed in their late twenties, snatched the bags and ran off down an alleyway at the side of the station towards a car park where a vehicle is thought to have been waiting.

Mr Clark, who was employed by PPR Security, based at Ilford, Essex, was left in a pool of blood on the pavement. Passing firemen tried to revive him, but he was dead on arrival at the Royal Free Hospital.

Mr Clarke, who was married, was accompanied by a driver in the collection. The shooting occurred at about 12.45 pm and sent people diving for cover.

Fight to stop £400,000 pay-off

By Jonathan Clare

Furious shareholders in John Brown, the troubled engineering company, will fight to stop a possible £400,000 "golden handshake" to Sir John Mayhew-Saunders, the former chairman.

Such a payment would be a record. Ousted directors in other companies have tried to get more but have been blocked by shareholders, the courts or their former company.

Sir John's £400,000 would be based on his salary and five-year rolling service contract. Rolling contracts are renewed each year and are disliked by big shareholders because they are rarely able to question them.

Yesterday sources close to the company said negotiations were still under way with Sir John's lawyers but that the sum was likely to be less than half the suggested figure of £400,000.

The row over Sir John's compensation follows shareholder disquiet about a proposed record-breaking £560,000 payment to Mr Jack Gill, Associated Communications Corporation's former managing director, which has still to be settled.

Now the pension funds, which are the biggest investors, want a body set up which would keep a register of all directors' contracts.



Sir John Mayhew-Saunders: Executive director

want a body set up which would keep a register of all directors' contracts. Pressure from big shareholders ousted Sir John from the John Brown board last month in favour of Sir John Cuckney, who was promoted from deputy chairman.

Sir John Mayhew-Saunders enjoyed a unique position in the John Brown boardroom where he was the only executive director. Business News page 11

Home international football's finale

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The British home football championship, which began in 1883-84 and is the oldest international competition in the world, is to be discontinued at the end of the 1983-84 season.

The Football Association's international committee yesterday voted by a substantial margin to withdraw from the event next year and the Scottish authorities, who are known to be sympathetic to the move, are expected to decide likewise.



Mr Croker: need more gaps in fixtures.

last season's championship supports Croker's statement. The match between England and Scotland, the "aid enemies" who are to continue to play each other on a friendly basis every year, drew 84,000 spectators to Wembley, equivalent to the sum of the attendances at the other five fives. The next highest total, 24,000 for England against Wales, was the lowest gate in Wembley's history.

Rampton man released after 11 years

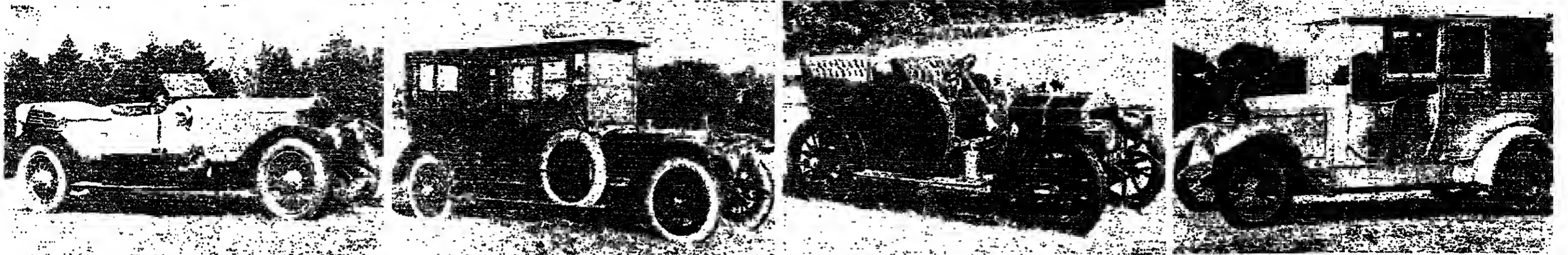
By Michael Horsnell

A man who has spent 11 years at Rampton mental hospital has been released after inaccuracies were found in his medical records.

Mr Lyle Clarke, aged 37, who was committed in 1972, started a period of reassessment yesterday as a voluntary in-patient at a Northampton mental hospital as part of a rehabilitation course.

Advertisement for Palace on Wheels, featuring a train and text: "India's unique holiday concept, the Palace on Wheels, brings back to life the vintage splendours of the age of Maharajas. Viceroy and Governors-General we thought had gone forever. DON'T MISS THIS TRAIN AGAIN!"

A rare chance to buy a 1905 Rolls-Royce for £100,000



The finest collection of Rolls-Royce ever to be offered for sale will be auctioned in October through Christie's, South Kensington, in association with Lord Montagu of Beaulieu (Christopher Warman writes). Three of the cars are expected to fetch at least £100,000.

The collection belongs to Mr Stanley Sears, who lives in Portugal. He began collecting cars, especially Rolls-Royces, in the 1930s, long before most collections were formed. His cars are likely to set price records for Rolls-Royces and the sale will probably reach up to

£500,000; however, because the seven vehicles are rare and in such perfect condition, Christie's is reluctant to give details. The star of the collection, which is to be sold at the Earls Court Motorfair on October 22, is a 1914 Silver Ghost Alpine Eagle touring by Fortholme (ex-

reme left). It is in pristine condition, although its engine has done more than 300,000 miles. The car was returned by its owner to Rolls-Royce in the 1930s, but when war broke its body was replaced with that of a lorry to transport Spitfire en-

gines. After the war its original body was restored and it was acquired by Mr Sears in 1951. It should fetch more than £100,000. Mr Sears was fired with enthusiasm for collecting after watching the London to Brighton run, although these cars, which include a 1905 model, were too

young to qualify. The oldest car is a rare 1905 Light Twenty TT Replica Tonneau (second from left), capable of 65-70 mph, which could also command a price in six figures. The third car which could fetch £100,000 is a 1912 Silver Ghost limousine by the royal

coachbuilders Hooper (first from left), which was purchased for the collection in 1945. Less valuable financially, but fascinating historically, is the 1923 20-horsepower laundrette (right), the body built in 1910 by Hamshaw, of Leicester, for Lord Lonsdale.

Consul says Irish visit did not represent the US Government

The newly appointed United States consul in Belfast warned people yesterday against believing that the recent Congressmen and Irish National Caucus delegation which visited the province represented the United States Government.

He said that Congressmen Richard Ottinger and Robert Borski were two out of 435 members of Congress and the Irish National Caucus campaign to stop Short Brothers being awarded a £20m US Air Force contract would not have a "big influence".

Mr Sam Bartlett, who has been in the province for two weeks, said Official Unionist

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Party allegations that Short's had already lost the contract were probably untrue because the bids were just coming in. "Once the bids are in decision-making starts and this will go on until some time near the end of the year."

People, Mr Bartlett said should not be under the mistaken impression that this week's visitors spoke for the US Government and he did not believe there had been any official government funding of their journey.

He said President Reagan had explained the US government's position in a statement

on St Patrick's Day in which he said he would discourage fundraising by violent groups, crack down on gun-running, and promote industrial investment in Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic.

Mr Bartlett said Congressman Mario Biaggi's ad hoc committee on Irish affairs was an informal grouping and that the Friends of Ireland Group, which included Senator Edward Kennedy and Speaker Tip O'Neill, paralleled the US Government's attitude toward Northern Ireland more frequently than the views of the other committee.

Discrimination in workforces alleged

Industry symbolizes rift

For Northern Ireland's Roman Catholics, the engineering industry in Belfast is seen as a symbol of discrimination with the workforce undeniably dominated by Protestants (Richard Ford writes).

Harland and Wolff and Short Brothers are the names mentioned most in the list of Roman Catholic grievances. Both are situated in staunchly Protestant east Belfast.

Today the shipyard struggles to survive and its decline is seen as symbolic of the crumbling of a Protestant/Unionist ascendancy, while Short's, which is 100 per cent Government-owned, is the largest employer in the province.

Its fight to win a multi-million pound order from the United States Air Force has involved Short's in unwelcome publicity, with the Irish National Congress making allegations of anti-Roman Catholic employment practices.

In 1977 the province's Fair Employment Agency (FEA) began an investigation into Belfast's engineering industry, discovering that a marked imbalance of religious representation in the traditionally highly-paid and high-status jobs had changed little in the previous six years.

In spite of attempts by management to make contact with careers masters in Roman Catholic schools, the proportion was not increasing, and in 1978 only six out of 98 apprentices had come from those schools.

Roman Catholics see these figures as proof that Short's have an employment policy that is positively discriminatory against them, but all the companies investigated by the FEA, including the aircraft manufacturers, said they did not perceive a problem of equality of opportunity.

While the FEA found no evidence of patent discrimination by management it did feel that employers were not providing equality of opportunity and that they should take the initiative to try to encourage Roman Catholics to join the companies.

Short's denies that it discriminated against Roman Catholics. A spokesman said of the FEA figures: "I do not know if they are accurate. We do not keep records of the religious composition of the workforce."

The answer is a little ingenious because, in Northern Ireland a person's name and school are often enough to identify his religion. The company has always employed Roman Catholics and some say there is nothing to stop them achieving promotion, but few Roman Catholics believe it is worth joining the firm.

provinces who believe it would have been better for the firm to admit that there had been problems in the past which was now attempting to rectify.

Neither has a letter of testimony from Short's shop stewards denying a policy of religious discrimination and saying as a trade union principle they would not now or historically permit Short's to discriminate.

The firm's use of this was described as "disastrous", particularly when the Irish National Congress was able to make much of the background of one of the stewards' involvement in the "loyalist" workers' strike which brought down the power-sharing executive.

However, the problem is made more complex because of the firm's position in east Belfast, the sectarian nature of Northern Ireland and the history of the state as Protestant-dominated.

Traditionally, news of job vacancies spread by word of mouth with a network of relatives and friends letting people know and some firms not having to advertise jobs because their files of application forms were so large.

The position of the firm has also been crucial in deterring Roman Catholics. Many Roman Catholics would be frightened to travel into an area like east Belfast, which is dominated by Protestants. As the FEA said, the companies on the eastern side of the river are regarded by west Belfast Catholics almost as "no go" areas.

Fears grow for informer's wife

From Richard Ford, Belfast

A police hunt was still under way in Co Donegal last night for several members of a kidnap gang as fears grew for the safety of an informer's wife being held by the Irish National Liberation Army. (Richard Ford writes from Belfast.)

Two men detained by the police after the rescue on Thursday of the stepfather and half-sister of the INLA informer Henry Kirkpatrick, aged 25, are being questioned by detectives at Letterkenny. Both men had addresses in Co Donegal; one is Sean O'Hara, whose brother, Patsy, died on hunger strike in the Maze prison in 1981.

Four other men from Londonderry, who were held on the Farnah peninsula on Thursday night, were expected to be released by the police after fingerprinting and questioning. Their relatives alleged that the men, from the Shantallow area of Londonderry, had been in the republic on a regular weekly fishing trip, that their car was packed with fishing tackle and lunch boxes.

In Co Donegal the police were combing the rugged countryside for up to eight members of the gang who fled in four hijacked cars as the police arrived at the five-bedroom house in Gortahork, where Mr Richard Hill,

aged 50, and his daughter, Diane, aged 13, had been held for almost two weeks. Detectives believe at least 10 people, including a woman, were involved in their abduction from a holiday home in Co Mayo as part of an attempt to force Mr Kirkpatrick, formerly Belfast quartermaster of INLA, to withdraw statements implicating 18 people in serious terrorist crime.

As Mr Hill, his wife, Eileen, and daughter, Diane, returned to their home in Belfast yesterday there was growing concern over the fate of Mrs Elizabeth Kirkpatrick, aged 24, the wife of Henry Kirkpatrick.

She was abducted from her parents' home in West Belfast in June by hooded men. The INLA has threatened to kill her soon. With the release of the Hills, pressure is mounting on the terrorists to carry out their threats or have them revealed as empty threats.

The INLA now know that Mrs Kirkpatrick's capture has not caused her husband to withdraw his evidence. Mr Kirkpatrick wrote to his mother and wife from his cell in the annex of Crumlin Road jail some time ago saying he wanted nothing more to do with them.

Review of legal aid principles

By a Staff Reporter

The Government has launched a review of the principles behind legal aid after criticism of the way the system is working.

Lord Halsbury, of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, has asked the Legal Aid Advisory Committee to review eligibility limits for civil and criminal aid and the non-financial criteria for the grant of legal aid.

Lord Halsbury said: "I am inviting the advisory committee to undertake a fresh look at the basic principles of legal aid". The last full review of criminal legal aid was that of the Widgery report of 1966; the main source document for civil legal aid is still the Ruschcliffe report of 1945.

Lord Halsbury said recently that the legal aid service is "cascading out of control". Costs have more than doubled in the past five years, with the Lord Chancellor's department estimating that £300m will be spent in 1983-84.

The review comes in the wake of criticisms that the legal aid system largely restricts action through the courts to the relatively poor and the well-off, leaving out many middle-income people.

Free legal aid is available for civil proceedings only to those with a capital of less than £2,500 and a disposable income of less than £1,965. Above that, contributions can be made. Those with disposable incomes above £4,720 and capital of £4,000 are usually ineligible.

In civil cases the non-financial criteria include a decision by the Law Society on whether there are reasonable grounds for proceeding with the case. In the criminal area the tests laid out in the Widgery report include: convicted and whether a substantial point of law is at issue.

The Legal Action Group, a pressure group of lawyers said last night that it suspected this reference was an attempt to produce cuts in legal aid.

Letter bomb is sent to doomed colliery

The manager of the doomed Cardowan colliery near Glasgow received a letter bomb yesterday. The device failed to explode, the coal board said.

Earlier yesterday, the Glasgow office of the Press Association newsagency received a letter from the Scottish National Liberation Army. It said: "SNLA attacks on 19/20. No more cuts."

The coal board wants to close the pit because it is making heavy losses. Cardowan employed 1,090 miners, but 300 have already left voluntarily and about seventy have been transferred to other pits. Work at two Scottish collieries was halted for several days last month because miners object to the transfers.

Mr Alex Ferry, National Union of Mineworkers' delegate at Cardowan, said: "Our reaction to what has happened is one of anger. All I can say to these people is that we do not want them associated with our cause. The men here are shocked. Things like this always happen to someone else, you do not expect it in a place like this."

Miners' union leaders appealed to the coal board on

Tuesday to retain Cardowan and the colliery at Brynllyn, South Wales.

Mr Michael McGahey, Scottish miners' leader, said Cardowan could have a viable future if the board invested in machinery.

Glasgow police confirmed that a letter had been sent to Cardowan and had been taken away for examination. They warned people handling letters to look out for other devices.

A police spokesman said: "Following the delivery of a letter claiming responsibility, purported to be from the SNLA to the Press Association in Glasgow, we warn people handling mail to be alert to the possibility of similar suspicious envelopes appearing in the post."

The Scottish National Liberation Army has been linked with more than a dozen letter bombs or hoaxes in the past year.

In June, the group claimed responsibility for an incendiary device sent to Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary. Each time a letter bomb was posted, there was a statement to the Press Association for the SNLA.

Closure threat to paper after big losses

By Amanda Haigh

The Evening Post-Echo in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, will close on November 16 with the loss of 394 jobs unless a buyer is found. Thomson Regional Newspapers announced yesterday (Amanda Haigh writes).

Mr William Heaps, the managing director, said that the company's operation had lost £2m over the past three years and the forecast this year was for a loss of £1m.

The circulation of the newspaper, established in 1967, had fallen from 92,742 in 1976 to 61,876 in 1982; advertising had fallen due to the recession and

the proliferation of other media, such as free newspapers, in the area, Mr Heaps said.

"This market is unlikely to recover for some time, and never to anything approaching the higher levels of the past", he said.

The closure will also affect editions covering Dunstable, Luton, Watford and St Albans.

The Post-Echo, one of the newest evening newspapers in the country, has had a troubled industrial relations record. If it closes, it will be the first shutdown this year of an evening newspaper.

Tebbit gives hope to TUC

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The restoration of normal relations between the TUC and Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, appeared closer last night after a second meeting within 24 hours gave union leaders hope that he would modify proposals for ending the payment of wages in cash.

A TUC delegation spent an hour with Mr Tebbit pressing him to slow plans to phase in the payment of wages by cheque of bank credit. It is likely that a joint investigation, joined by business leaders and the High Street banks, will look into problems arising out of planned legislation.

Mr Tebbit has said he intends to repeal the nineteenth century Truck Acts which entitle workers to demand payment by

whatever means they wish and accordingly will denounce next month the International Labour Organization (ILO) convention 95 to which the Government is a signatory.

The convention offers wage protection to workers and the Department of Employment are likely to centre on maintaining those sections of the convention not concerned with payment of wages in cash. Department lawyers believe the Government has to denounce the convention before it can repeal the Truck Acts.

Union leaders at yesterday's meeting also asked Mr Tebbit to consider introducing new laws to outlaw reducing the wages of a person in control of a mill which shows shortages. They

cited a recent case in which a petrol pump attendant's weekly wage was 16p after deductions caused by motorists driving away without paying.

Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, said the delegation had emphasized "our very real concern that workers should have the basic right to be paid in the way in which they want".

He said they had called for action against "unscrupulous" employers who were not prepared to guarantee payment of wages each week to their workers, but added: "We have made progress today and Mr Tebbit appeared willing to look again at his proposals which were put forward in a rather arbitrary way."

Talks fail to end Nigg yard dispute

By a Staff Reporter

Management and union leaders from Highland Fabricator's oil platform yard at Nigg held separate meetings throughout yesterday without coming any nearer to resolving a dispute which led to the dismissal of the yard's 2000 hourly-paid workers on Thursday.

Management have ruled out the possibility of meeting shop stewards but say they are prepared to talk with officials of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers who travelled up to Nigg, 50 miles north of Inverness, yesterday.

A spokesman said the company will begin recruiting a new workforce next week. It is believed at least 500 of the dismissed workers will not be re-hired. Management say the firm is fighting for its life.

Protest at 'tax for weapons'

Canon Paul Oestreicher, aged 51, a vice-president of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, appeared at Lambeth County Court yesterday after refusing to pay £30 of his income tax which, he says, would go towards nuclear weapons.

He was granted leave to appeal by Judge Magnus, and the case will be heard at a date to be fixed. After the brief hearing Canon Oestreicher said: "I am very, very pleased. I believe it is the first time an appeal has been heard in a case of this kind."

He said he had worked out the amount based on the level of national spending which goes on defence and the proportion of that which is dedicated to nuclear weapons. Canon Oestreicher, one of four vice-presidents of CND,



Canon Oestreicher. Granted an appeal.

was ordered last month to pay the tax demand or face have the money taken forcibly from his bank account.

The judge ruled that Canon Oestreicher, international secretary of the British Council of Churches and an honorary canon of Southwark Cathedral, had sufficient grounds for an appeal against paying the demand.

CND to review its specialist groups

By Nicholas Timmins

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is reviewing all its specialist sections, their organization, and their policy-making powers after their rapid growth in recent years and attempts by some sections to take policy beyond the area of nuclear disarmament.

The review was under way well before the present dispute over the activities of Youth CND, technically a youth wing of CND rather than a specialist section.

The national committee of youth CND has been suspended and all decisions taken at its annual conference last month were declared void after irregularities were discovered: membership cards inadequately checked, ages were not checked and a resolution was passed supporting a demonstration next month against the Chilean regime, which is outside CND's policy.

Only 29 of the 200 or so CND groups attended the conference, one group, Oxford, held almost a fifth of the votes among the 200 people who attended, out of a total membership of 8,000.

In the weeks before the conference the Oxford group registered 130 new members. It has some Socialist League members and has held committee meetings at 26 Bellingdon Road, the address at the centre of the BL "moles" dispute.

The action over Youth CND comes after a decision in June

to put four national council members on the executive of Labour CND with power to veto any decision out of line with CND's policy after irregularities at Labour CND's annual conference earlier this year.

According to CND sources, about 400 people attended the conference compared with 60 last year, membership was not checked and some Socialist League members were elected to its executive.

Internal arguments about policy within the executive followed. Matters came to a head over attempts within the executive to donate money to Socialist Action, the newspaper of the Socialist League, and over a model resolution to be sent to constituency Labour parties for the year's Labour Party conference calling on a Labour government to scrap all nuclear weapons immediately on taking office.

Labour policy is to implement a non-nuclear defence policy over the lifetime of a Labour government. Some Labour CND executive members considered the membership and asked CND's national council to intervene.

Mr Bruce Kent, general secretary of CND, said yesterday that the decisions over Labour CND and youth CND were not a witch-hunt but an attempt to ensure that the sections were representative of their membership.

Mother's threat to sue over loss of baby

Mr Martin Newton and his wife, Moira, have been offered £750 compensation for the loss of their 8lb 5oz baby, Leanne Michelle, who died four days after birth in a hospital in Chesterfield.

The baby was delivered in Scarsdale Hospital by Caesarean section after other methods had been tried. At an inquest two consultants and a pathologist agreed that if the operation had been carried out sooner the baby might have lived.

The baby died a year ago. Now Mrs Newton, aged 24, of Boughton Lane, Clowes, north Derbyshire, who said that at the time she pleaded for a Caesarean because of the baby's size, says she and her husband, a miner, might take out a private legal action.

The Trent Regional Health Authority said: "An offer does not imply we accept we were responsible."

The district administrator for the North Derbyshire Health Authority, Mr John Newton, said: "There was no suggestion of negligence. An offer has been made to the parents and if they accept it they will sign a form on which the authority does not admit liability."

Mestel's ingenuity puts him in the lead again

From Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent, Southampton

Jonathan Mestel, the young English grandmaster, is again in the sole lead in the Grieverson Grant British chess championships.

He had a hard game against Hodgson in round 10 which at one time looked a likely draw, but he found an ingenious continuation that enabled him to force a win in 53 moves.

With the fine score of eight points, Mestel enjoys a half-point lead over Murray Chandler who had a good win against Botvinnik in 35 moves.

In losing to the Australian Rogers, Speelman, one of the favourites to win the title, said goodbye to his winning chances. Rogers and his fellow Australian, Johansen, who beat Flear in this round, along with Horner and Martin, are lying in third place with seven points each.

In an adjourned game from

round 9, Miss Jackson beat Brnzeld.

In the British ladies' championship, Miss Cordie lost the lead she had held through the tournament by losing to Miss Milligan who is now tying for first place with Miss Cordie and Miss Hamid with 4 1/2 pts. Mrs Hamid had a comfortable win in this round against Mrs Wood.

Other results round 9: Mrs Wright 1/2, Mrs Johnson 1/2, Mrs McLeary 1/2, Mrs Thomas 1/2, Mrs McDonald 1/2, Mrs Taylor 1/2, Mrs Brown 1/2, Mrs Green 1/2, Mrs White 1/2, Mrs Black 1/2, Mrs Grey 1/2, Mrs Gold 1/2, Mrs Silver 1/2, Mrs Bronze 1/2, Mrs Iron 1/2, Mrs Steel 1/2, Mrs Lead 1/2, Mrs Tin 1/2, Mrs Zinc 1/2, Mrs Nickel 1/2, Mrs Copper 1/2, Mrs Aluminium 1/2, Mrs Magnesium 1/2, Mrs Silicon 1/2, Mrs Phosphorus 1/2, Mrs Sulphur 1/2, Mrs Chlorine 1/2, Mrs Fluorine 1/2, Mrs Neon 1/2, Mrs Argon 1/2, Mrs Krypton 1/2, Mrs Xenon 1/2, Mrs Radon 1/2.

Traffic jam

Traffic was disrupted on the A4136 in the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, yesterday when a lorry carrying 18 tons of blackcurrants split its load.

Overseas selling prices: America: 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c, 40c, 45c, 50c, 55c, 60c, 65c, 70c, 75c, 80c, 85c, 90c, 95c, 1.00, 1.05, 1.10, 1.15, 1.20, 1.25, 1.30, 1.35, 1.40, 1.45, 1.50, 1.55, 1.60, 1.65, 1.70, 1.75, 1.80, 1.85, 1.90, 1.95, 2.00, 2.05, 2.10, 2.15, 2.20, 2.25, 2.30, 2.35, 2.40, 2.45, 2.50, 2.55, 2.60, 2.65, 2.70, 2.75, 2.80, 2.85, 2.90, 2.95, 3.00, 3.05, 3.10, 3.15, 3.20, 3.25, 3.30, 3.35, 3.40, 3.45, 3.50, 3.55, 3.60, 3.65, 3.70, 3.75, 3.80, 3.85, 3.90, 3.95, 4.00, 4.05, 4.10, 4.15, 4.20, 4.25, 4.30, 4.35, 4.40, 4.45, 4.50, 4.55, 4.60, 4.65, 4.70, 4.75, 4.80, 4.85, 4.90, 4.95, 5.00, 5.05, 5.10, 5.15, 5.20, 5.25, 5.30, 5.35, 5.40, 5.45, 5.50, 5.55, 5.60, 5.65, 5.70, 5.75, 5.80, 5.85, 5.90, 5.95, 6.00, 6.05, 6.10, 6.15, 6.20, 6.25, 6.30, 6.35, 6.40, 6.45, 6.50, 6.55, 6.60, 6.65, 6.70, 6.75, 6.80, 6.85, 6.90, 6.95, 7.00, 7.05, 7.10, 7.15, 7.20, 7.25, 7.30, 7.35, 7.40, 7.45, 7.50, 7.55, 7.60, 7.65, 7.70, 7.75, 7.80, 7.85, 7.90, 7.95, 8.00, 8.05, 8.10, 8.15, 8.20, 8.25, 8.30, 8.35, 8.40, 8.45, 8.50, 8.55, 8.60, 8.65, 8.70, 8.75, 8.80, 8.85, 8.90, 8.95, 9.00, 9.05, 9.10, 9.15, 9.20, 9.25, 9.30, 9.35, 9.40, 9.45, 9.50, 9.55, 9.60, 9.65, 9.70, 9.75, 9.80, 9.85, 9.90, 9.95, 10.00, 10.05, 10.10, 10.15, 10.20, 10.25, 10.30, 10.35, 10.40, 10.45, 10.50, 10.55, 10.60, 10.65, 10.70, 10.75, 10.80, 10.85, 10.90, 10.95, 11.00, 11.05, 11.10, 11.15, 11.20, 11.25, 11.30, 11.35, 11.40, 11.45, 11.50, 11.55, 11.60, 11.65, 11.70, 11.75, 11.80, 11.85, 11.90, 11.95, 12.00, 12.05, 12.10, 12.15, 12.20, 12.25, 12.30, 12.35, 12.40, 12.45, 12.50, 12.55, 12.60, 12.65, 12.70, 12.75, 12.80, 12.85, 12.90, 12.95, 13.00, 13.05, 13.10, 13.15, 13.20, 13.25, 13.30, 13.35, 13.40, 13.45, 13.50, 13.55, 13.60, 13.65, 13.70, 13.75, 13.80, 13.85, 13.90, 13.95, 14.00, 14.05, 14.10, 14.15, 14.20, 14.25, 14.30, 14.35, 14.40, 14.45, 14.50, 14.55, 14.60, 14.65, 14.70, 14.75, 14.80, 14.85, 14.90, 14.95, 15.00, 15.05, 15.10, 15.15, 15.20, 15.25, 15.30, 15.35, 15.40, 15.45, 15.50, 15.55, 15.60, 15.65, 15.70, 15.75, 15.80, 15.85, 15.90, 15.95, 16.00, 16.05, 16.10, 16.15, 16.20, 16.25, 16.30, 16.35, 16.40, 16.45, 16.50, 16.55, 16.60, 16.65, 16.70, 16.75, 16.80, 16.85, 16.90, 16.95, 17.00, 17.05, 17.10, 17.15, 17.20, 17.25, 17.30, 17.35, 17.40, 17.45, 17.50, 17.55, 17.

Kidney disease case in London as search for cause continues

The kidney disease that has caused three deaths in the past month, and affected 28 children in three areas has also affected a child in north London, it was said yesterday.

Dr Paul Gully, a Birmingham consultant in community medicine, visited the Communicable Diseases Surveillance Centre at Colindale, north London, where the search for the source of the disease haemolytic uraemic syndrome is being coordinated.

Dr Gully is leading the search in the west Midlands, where a woman aged 59, and a girl aged two, have died and 18 children have been infected. Five are still in hospital, and the condition of two was said yesterday to be still causing concern.

He is also in touch with doctors in Sheffield, where there have been six cases, and Manchester, where there have been four, all children. In an apparently isolated case, a Nottingham girl aged nine died on August 12.

Dr Gully said the London case appeared recently, but the child was now well. He declined to pinpoint the area where it happened or the age and sex of the child. He said: "I was told about it in confidence for my own information. But it was not part of a cluster. We expect such sporadic cases at this time of the year."

He denied a report that he had suggested ice cream or ice lollies were the possible source. All children ate them particularly in a hot summer. He said parents of the sick children had been asked about a whole range of food and drinks. "We have some ideas we are following up, but there is nothing definite."

At the Centre for Applied Microbiological Science, Porton Down, Wiltshire, Dr Peter Sutton, the director, said there was no progress to report on the cultures of blood samples from infected children. It is suspected that a virus is involved.

He continued: "We are exploring a number of avenues, but nothing has come up yet and it has got to be given longer. It could be a matter of days or weeks."

● Haemolytic uraemic syndrome is a condition in which the sudden rapid destruction of the red blood cells, a process known as haemolysis, causes acute renal failure, partly due to the blocking of the small arteries in the kidney (see Medical Correspondent writes).

The haemolytic process, as well as giving rise to severe anaemia also causes a drop in the number of platelets, particles in the blood essential for clotting. Death, when it occurs, can therefore either be due to kidney failure, a lowered resistance to infection, or severe haemorrhage. Dialysis or a kidney machine can help the patient to overcome the effects of the renal failure, but has no influence on the course of the rest of the disease.

The syndrome has been reported for the past 30 years, but has only recently received widespread publicity, probably as the result of a joint exercise being mounted this year by the Communicable Diseases Surveillance Centre and the British Paediatric Association, to monitor all cases in the hope of discovering common factors between them.

It was originally intended that there should be no publicity for the survey, but news of the cases reported to it has appeared in the press through the regional health authorities. It is suspected that the publicity, though unplanned, may stimulate research.

The syndrome occurs in isolated cases as a result of septicæmia, eclamptic fits in pregnancy, or reaction to some drugs, and sometimes in the elderly without an obvious cause.

Particular interest is centred on the sporadic small outbreaks which occur in this country. Usually they affect children in the summer or early autumn.

When cases are clustered together in this way doctors naturally suspect that there might be an infecting agent, in this instance it is thought possible to be a virus. Infection may be only one of several factors; diet deficiency and genetic make-up have both been suggested as others.

Government scientists at Colindale are exploring the theory that the syndrome might be caused by the production of a toxin by one of the organisms which normally give rise to gastro-enteritis. Outbreaks are more common in other parts of the world, particularly South and Central America. Affected children first appear to be suffering from gastro-enteritis, but rapidly lapse into kidney failure. The failure produces nausea, vomiting, headache, itching, and if untreated, then proceeds to sleepiness, confusion, and death.



Clowns at prayer: A quiet moment before the frolics. (Photograph: John Voos).

Clown priests tumble in and take a pew

They were laughing, dancing and rolling in the aisles of St James's Church, Piccadilly, London, yesterday as Britain's first Christian clowning course got under way (Amazanda Haigh writes).

Sixty would-be clowns, from teenagers to pensioners, came from all parts of Britain to learn tumbling, storytelling, puppetry, and mime, and make holy fools of themselves.

The three-day course ends with an eucharist at the church tomorrow, at which clowns, dancers, and puppeteers will perform the lessons and the prayers. The course was organized by British Christians keen to copy the success in the United States of about 3,000 clown ministry groups led by the clergy. They take their jokes and their message to hospital patients, prisoners, drug addicts and prostitutes.

35, a professional clown from Wimbledon who is leading the course said: "It would be nice if we could persuade people in this country to become clown priests."

The Rev Roly Bain, aged 29, who is on the staff of Southwark Cathedral was taking part in the falling class and still wearing his clerical collar. He said: "Part of what I hope all this will do is to encourage the Church to make a fool of itself."

Patrick Forbes, joint organizer of the course who is St Albans diocesan communications officer, said: "Humour has got a lot to offer. The Church is far too solemn."

His son Stephen, aged 15, thought the course was great making a fool of himself. "I do that anyway."

Pre-school computer programs

By Bill Johnston

Electronics Correspondent

Children in future may well discard their coloured balls and painting books in favour of home computers in a new type of program written specifically for children aged four to eight is successful.

Longman, the educational publishers, has launched three home computer programs designed to help children to take their first faltering steps towards literacy and numeracy.

The group has been involved in developing microcomputer software for schools, but these new programs effectively introduce it to the home computing market. Each of the programs is accompanied by an instruction book for parents.

The programs have been devised for the Sinclair Spectrum, the best-selling home computer in Britain, which can produce coloured effects. There are more than a million home computers in Britain.

Thomp-EMI is designing its own educational computer programs which it intends to send through cable television networks next year.

Jealous man jailed for kidnap plot

An obsessively jealous husband paid two men £2,000 to kidnap his former wife so that he could murder her, but when they tricked him out of the money he went to the police to complain, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Describing the "extraordinary" case, Mr John Bevan, for the prosecution, said that at first James Wiles lied to the police.

He told them he had paid the men to murder his former wife, Doris, aged 45, but had changed his mind and wanted to stop them.

Then he admitted that he had paid the money so they would kidnap her and bring her to him in a drugged state when he could murder her.

Wiles, aged 49, a painter of Patterson Point, Fife Road, Canning Town, east London, admitted incitement to kidnap and was jailed for five years which Judge Dewhurst said he doubted was long enough.

"You are an extreme danger to your wife, a menace to her, and the only safeguard is to lock you up for a considerable time", he said.

Mr Bevan said Wiles described to police his obsessive jealousy about his former wife.

"I imagined her with other men and they are running their hands over her", he said. As he was speaking he was grinding his teeth in rage and gripping the sides of his chair, the court was told.

"If I cannot have her, no one else will", Wiles was said to have told the police. He had laid out a tie to strangle his former wife and packed a case ready to leave his flat immediately afterwards.

Wiles said he had saved up for the three years since his divorce to "fund a remarkable operation".

He met someone in a public house who said he and a friend would kidnap his former wife and bring her to Wiles's flat in a drugged condition.

He paid them £2,000 in May, but they did not produce his former wife. "I have been ripped off. Those dirty bastards conned me and I want revenge," Wiles told the police when he first complained.

Mrs Linda Stern, for the defence said Wiles was obsessed with his former wife, but was a danger only to her. He had personality problems, but doctors disagreed about whether he needed mental treatment.

Woman in affair with boy keeps job

A social worker who had an affair with a boy aged 15 at an assessment centre for problem children is to stay in council employment.

The woman, aged 23, carried on the affair for almost a year after being told to end it. She was promoted after she promised never to see the boy again.

Now Liverpool Labour councillors have decided she should not lose her job with the City Council, but be transferred to a job away from child care. The boy is still in council care.

The unnamed woman, who was 21 when the affair started, was a houseparent at New

Heyes Assessment centre when she was confronted about the affair by an acting social worker and the deputy warden of the centre. At a further meeting in November, 1981, she promised to end the relationship, and in May she was promoted to supervisor at another centre.

But the affair continued in secret until February this year when the boy's mother discovered three love letters written to her son by the social worker, who was immediately suspended on full pay.

But despite a recommendation by the city's social services director, Mr Donald

Cheatham, that she be dismissed, a disciplinary sub-committee voted after a seven-hour hearing that she keep a council job.

Mr Paul Clarke, Liberal spokesman on the social services committee, said: "Labour have refused to put forward for dismissal anyone over the past two years."

The deputy Labour leader, Mr Derek Hatton, said: "The person had never before been found to be wanting in terms of efficiency and we felt that the main requirement was her removal from work with children."

Father dug tunnel of death

A beach game designed to amuse children ended in death when Mr Graham Pepper, aged 28, father of two of the children suffocated as the tunnel he was digging collapsed on top of him.

An inquest at Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, yesterday was told how other holiday-makers dug with their hands and rescue services fought against the sand in a vain effort to rescue Mr Pepper, a fisherman, of Buttfield Road, Hessele, Hull, from the grave he had dug for himself.

"He was under 10 tons of sand and must have suffocated almost at once," the station officer, Mr Terry Blyth, who led the fireco struggling to reach him said.

Mr Michael Surton, the coroner, recorded a verdict of misadventure.

Inquests open on 3 crash victims

The inquests on three of the four people who died in the M4 coach crash on Wednesday were opened at Swindon police station, Wiltshire, yesterday when the coroner, Mr John Elgar, heard evidence of identification.

Mrs Eirlys Phillips, aged 52, of Swansea, died from brain contusion and haemorrhage. Mr Patrick Barbes, aged 35, from Paris, died from multiple injuries, and Mr Michael Stephenson, aged 19, of Swansea, from severe head injuries. The inquests were adjourned until October 28.

Warning over hypnotist tapes

Cassette tapes for do-it-yourself hypnotists could lead to death on the roads, Mr Derek Fairley, of the Institute of Curative Hypnotherapists, said yesterday.

The tapes include the popular tune, "A Whiter Shade of Pale" which, if heard on the car radio, might send the driver into a trance with fatal consequences, he said.

Youngest girl to swim channel



Samantha Druce, aged 12 (above) who yesterday became the youngest girl to swim the English Channel.

She took the title from Alison Wetherly, of Howarth Road, Abbey Wood, south-east London, who had held it for about four hours after completing her swim from France to Dover on Thursday.

Driver named

The car driver killed by a train at a level crossing on Thursday while he was being pursued by the police was named yesterday as Mark Vase, aged 19, unemployed of Franklin Court, Park Barn, Guilford, Surrey.

British TV boost for Australia

By David Hewson

More Commonwealth television is to be seen in Britain from next October as a result of an agreement to raise the independent television companies' quota for overseas material.

It will provide an outlet mainly for Australian stations, but there will also be some programmes from Canada.

Independent companies are at present limited by the Independent Broadcasting Authority to showing a maximum of 14 per cent of overseas material. That figure is to be raised to 15.5 per cent - provided that the extra material comes from the Commonwealth.

One ITV executive said last night: "Australian television and films have improved tremendously in quality in recent years."

The level of American and other foreign material will stay at 14 per cent, though several categories are exempt, including classic films made before 1945.

Many television executives feel that the Commonwealth countries could have made greater inroads into British television in recent years if Britain's entry into the EEC had not brought about a rewriting of the quota rules.

The IBA has interpreted EEC regulations as dictating that programmes and films made within the Community should count as a British product, although few are even dubbed in English.

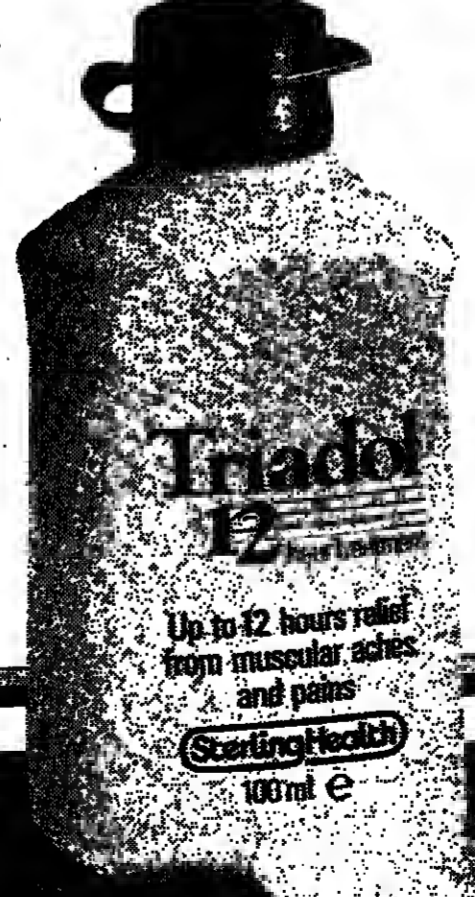


New Dr Who: Colin Baker, who succeeds Peter Davison in the BBC television series, posing yesterday with Nicola Bryant, the doctor's latest assistant "Peri". Baker, who is aged

40, played a villain in the long running BBC television series The Brothers. A former husband of Liza Goddard, he is now married to Marion Wyatt, who is also an actress (Photograph: David Cairns).

Muscular pain is a particularly persistent kind of pain. Almost like a bodily toothache. That's why ordinary remedies are seldom enough. Because unless you keep repeating the treatment throughout the day, the pain simply comes back. With new Triadol, however, that problem doesn't exist. Because it's the medicine specially formulated to give up to 12 hour relief from muscular aches and pains. Specially developed, after many years of research, to deal with the specific problems of

muscular pain, Triadol is now available from Sterling Health. Triadol is more than just an effective painkiller. It actually works in three ways. Triadol eases the pain quickly. It also relieves stiffness and reduces inflammation and Triadol goes on working for up to 12 hours. So you can take Triadol in the morning and forget further treatment for the rest of the day. You'll find Triadol in most chemists. You'll also find it a bit more expensive than ordinary treatments. But then, you won't find anything better.



Muscular pain? Forget it.

US-backed insurgents admit they cannot win war in Nicaragua

Tegucigalpa, Honduras (Reuters) - Five months after they predicted imminent victory, the leaders of US-backed insurgents fighting Nicaragua's left-wing government admit they have started a war they cannot hope to win.

"There can be no purely military victory," Senior Edgar Chamorro, a key figure in the seven-member Directorate of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) said. "There should be negotiations."

Last March, Senior Chamorro described FDN guerrillas fighting inside Nicaragua as "the vanguard of the general insurrection". One of his directorate colleagues confidently proclaimed: "We shall be rejoicing in liberated territory within 60 days."

At that time, an FDN force estimated at about 2,000 was fighting in north-western and central Nicaragua after slipping across the border from Honduras. But they failed to start an uprising and were driven back to the mountains along the frontier.

Now FDN leaders say they need more money, more arms and many more men to convince the Nicaraguan Government it must negotiate with the right-wing insurgents - an objective they falls far short of the FDN's original declared aim.

"We have 10,000 men now," Senior Chamorro said in

interviews with Reuters. "But we want to build up our force to 25,000." This would match the strength of Nicaragua's regular army.

With the help of the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the FDN blossomed from a motley group of 500 to its present size in less than two years.

US assistance to the FDN, by far the largest of several exile groups opposed to Nicaragua's ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front, led to an angry debate in the United States.

FDN chiefs say they want to immerse their fighting strength to wear down the Sandinistas and force them to discuss demands for democratic reforms, an end to ties with the Soviet Union and Cuba, and a pledge to stop exporting Marxist revolution.

The insurgents apparently feel a massive show of military muscle by the United States might make the Managua leadership more amenable to talks. "The only language the Sandinistas understand is the language of force," Senior Chamorro commented. "They must be addressed in that language."

MANAGUA: Senior Humberto Ortega, the Nicaraguan Defence Minister, said that guerrillas fighting the Sandinistas in Government were waging their biggest offensive of the

year in northern Nicaragua and he reported heavy casualties on both sides (AFP reports).

He claimed the insurgents were trying to take over a large portion of northern Nicaragua or the country's Atlantic coast to set up a provisional government "recognized and supported by the United States and their allies in the region."

He reported fierce fighting, particularly in the state of Jinotega, 105 miles north of the capital, and described the military situation in the north as "difficult."

The Defence Minister speculated that the "invaders" could seize Puerto Cabezas, 260 miles north-east of Managua, in the northern offensive.

SAN SALVADOR: Air Force aircraft and helicopters bombed and strafed guerrilla strongholds on two volcanoes near San Salvador on Thursday while hundreds of government soldiers tracked the rebels on the mountain slopes (AP reports).

In the north-eastern province of Morazan, troops leaving the town of Cacopaera told a reporter that about 700 soldiers from two counter-insurgency battalions had recovered the town from guerrillas. They said five guerrillas were killed and three captured while two soldiers were wounded in the combat, 110 miles north-east of San Salvador.



Hurricane looting brings 120 arrests

Damaged yachts lying in the remains of a marina at Nassau Bay, Texas, after Hurricane Alicia had passed.

About 120 people have been arrested for looting in Houston and Galveston in the wake of the hurricane (Reuters reports). Six people were killed by the storm and officials estimated property damage at possibly as much as \$1,000m (£660m) in the

area of Houston, the fifth largest United States city. More than 100 people were arrested for looting in central Houston.

A police spokesman said looting of stores began even before the storm passed on Thursday, despite winds that reached up to 89 mph and blew hundreds of windows out of shops and skyscrapers throughout the business

district. Houston Lighting and Power Company reported that power had been restored yesterday to about half the 750,000 people affected. But some of the business district was still without electricity.

Alicia has now been downgraded to a tropical storm and was heading for north-central Texas at about 10 mph early yesterday.

Car blast hurts 20 in Tripoli

Beirut - Twenty people were injured, several seriously, when a bomb exploded in a Mercedes car parked outside the Abdullah al-Bisar hospital in Tripoli, northern Lebanon. Two weeks ago a car bomb killed 19 people outside a Tripoli mosque (Kate Doustian writes).

The bomb went off a short distance from the offices of the October 24 Movement, an anti-Syrian militia supporting the Government of President Amin Gemayel.

In southern Lebanon, local authorities found 22 decomposing bodies under the rubble of a building in Sidon, once used by the Palestine Liberation Organization as a prison.

Turkish editors for questioning

Istanbul (Reuters) - Two editors and two columnists of the banned Turkish newspaper *Tercuman* (right of centre) and *Milliyet* (conservative) are to be questioned by the martial law authorities.

Mr Nazih Ilıcak, columnist and Mr Unal Salkmaz, senior editor, have been ordered to appear before the prosecutor. So have Mr Dogan Heper, editor-in-chief of *Milliyet* and Mr Metin Tokur, a columnist.

Crooks' tour

Marseille (AFP) - Six men attracted security guards making a delivery to the Thomas Cook travel agency and stole 3m francs (£250,000).

Lend's denial

Iran Lend, the Czechoslovak tennis star, who told reporters in Moscow, Ohio, that he enjoys "the easy life" in the United States, but had no plans to defect. A London newspaper, quoting exile sources, had reported that he had decided to do so.

Protests 'put down brutally'

Santiago (AFP) - Chilean protesters last week were put down with an unusual degree of "brutality, sadism and fury," according to a group of doctors here.

Twenty-four demonstrators were killed and dozens more suffered gunshot wounds during last Thursday's national protest day, the fourth in as many months against the regime of President Pinochet.

Caretaker job

Rarotonga (Reuters) - The former Prime Minister, Mr Geoffrey Henry, is to head a caretaker government in the Cook Islands until new elections are held on November 2. The Queen's Representative, Sir Gaven Donne, announced. It will be banned from making new policies or changing existing ones.

Writers' scrum

Johannesburg (Reuters) - A lavish 10-day conference for about 80 overseas rugby writers, costing an estimated \$500,000 (£330,000), opens in Cape Town on Monday, marking another South African attempt to prove itself ready to be allowed back into the international arena.

Hatred day

Bangkok (AFP) - Cambodia has fixed next May 20 as the planned "national day of hatred" against the former Kammer Rouge regime. The people would be able to remember forever the black years of Pol Pot, Ieng Sary and Khieu Samphan, said the Phnom Penh news agency SPK.

Space supplies

Moscow (AP) - An unmanned spacecraft Progress 17, carrying fuel, air, water, food and other supplies to the Soviet cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Aleksandr Alexandrov in the orbiting Salyut 7 complex docked with the space station. They are in their eighth week aloft.

Airliner fire

Rome (Reuters) - A Syrian Airlines Boeing 727 bound for Damascus caught fire at Rome airport as 154 passengers were boarding. There was panic among the crew steps as those boarding fled and those inside struggled to get out. The airport was closed for an hour.

Animal crackers

Moscow (AP) - Three Siberian tigers, Alisa, Astra and Tyulpan, from the Soviet Far East, a gift from Moscow Zoo to the United States in exchange for a sea lion, will be obliged to make the trip next week via Montreal. Since martial law in Poland, President Reagan has suspended Aeroflot's US landing rights.

Relations with Washington at new low France plays the naughty boy over Chad

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

"As usual the French want to have it all their way," remarked a disgruntled US official, looking up from a map showing the latest situation in the civil war in Chad. "They don't want to see Libya taking over the place, but are not prepared to do much to prevent this happening, and they become exceedingly resentful when this is pointed out."

The crisis in Chad has brought US-French relations to a low level. When President Reagan and President Mitterrand held their first meeting in Washington two years ago it appeared that an unlikely affinity had developed between the West's most influential conservative and socialist leaders.

However the honeymoon did not last long, and has successfully been strained by the dispute over the Soviet gas pipeline, differences in approach towards the Communist block, disagreements over how to handle the crisis in Central America and French *ouverts* over the impact which the strong dollar and high interest rates are having on the French economy.

Paradoxically, despite these irritants, France remains one of the US's closest supporters on defence issues and the need to deploy new medium-range missiles in Europe.

Seen from Washington, France is again playing its traditional role of the naughty boy in the European classroom, just as it did under President de Gaulle. "France is always recalcitrant of America's influence, but doubly so when it involves one of France's former territories," the official said.

The cause of the present tension is the two countries' differing interpretations of what is happening in Chad. The US sees the dispute in East-West terms, with Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, as the chief villain who, with Soviet arms, is bent on empire-building in Central Africa.

France views it essentially as a regional dispute between two nationalist leaders. It wants to isolate it from superpower conflict and also keep open its expanding commercial relations with Libya.

President Mitterrand's Government, which has tried to wind down France's traditional role of policing its former African colonies, favours negotiating with Libya as the best way of stopping the fighting. The Americans, however, with strong Egyptian and Sudanese backing, want Colonel Gaddafi to be cut down to size.

The US has been openly critical of France's failure to act quickly and decisively in what President Reagan described as its "sphere of influence," a neo-colonial reference which does not go down well in socialist Paris. The delay in the dispatch of French troops and refusal to send fighter aircraft to Chad is seen in Washington as being largely responsible for the recent military successes of the Libyan-backed rebel forces.

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Western Sahara war unresolved Morocco chases a referendum mirage

From Geoffrey Morrison, Dakhia, Western Sahara

Appropriately, since it concerns the future of an area of sand slightly bigger than Britain, the proposed referendum of the Western Sahara looks increasingly like a political mirage.

But this week the Moroccan Administration would itself set up to win whatever contest may emerge by sending political leaders on a campaign trail of the four main towns in this territory which has been fought over for more than seven years by Morocco and the Polisario guerrillas, who want an independent state.

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But perhaps most striking was to see, sitting on the same

Western Sahara war unresolved

Morocco chases a referendum mirage

From Geoffrey Morrison, Dakhia, Western Sahara

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Car blast hurts 20 in Tripoli

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Beirut - Twenty people were injured, several seriously, when a bomb exploded in a Mercedes car parked outside the Abdullah al-Bisar hospital in Tripoli, northern Lebanon. Two weeks ago a car bomb killed 19 people outside a Tripoli mosque (Kate Doustian writes).

The bomb went off a short distance from the offices of the October 24 Movement, an anti-Syrian militia supporting the Government of President Amin Gemayel.

In southern Lebanon, local authorities found 22 decomposing bodies under the rubble of a building in Sidon, once used by the Palestine Liberation Organization as a prison.

Turkish editors for questioning

Istanbul (Reuters) - Two editors and two columnists of the banned Turkish newspaper *Tercuman* (right of centre) and *Milliyet* (conservative) are to be questioned by the martial law authorities.

Mr Nazih Ilıcak, columnist and Mr Unal Salkmaz, senior editor, have been ordered to appear before the prosecutor. So have Mr Dogan Heper, editor-in-chief of *Milliyet* and Mr Metin Tokur, a columnist.

Crooks' tour

Marseille (AFP) - Six men attracted security guards making a delivery to the Thomas Cook travel agency and stole 3m francs (£250,000).

Lend's denial

Iran Lend, the Czechoslovak tennis star, who told reporters in Moscow, Ohio, that he enjoys "the easy life" in the United States, but had no plans to defect. A London newspaper, quoting exile sources, had reported that he had decided to do so.

Protests 'put down brutally'

Santiago (AFP) - Chilean protesters last week were put down with an unusual degree of "brutality, sadism and fury," according to a group of doctors here.

Twenty-four demonstrators were killed and dozens more suffered gunshot wounds during last Thursday's national protest day, the fourth in as many months against the regime of President Pinochet.

Caretaker job

Rarotonga (Reuters) - The former Prime Minister, Mr Geoffrey Henry, is to head a caretaker government in the Cook Islands until new elections are held on November 2. The Queen's Representative, Sir Gaven Donne, announced. It will be banned from making new policies or changing existing ones.

Writers' scrum

Johannesburg (Reuters) - A lavish 10-day conference for about 80 overseas rugby writers, costing an estimated \$500,000 (£330,000), opens in Cape Town on Monday, marking another South African attempt to prove itself ready to be allowed back into the international arena.

Hatred day

Bangkok (AFP) - Cambodia has fixed next May 20 as the planned "national day of hatred" against the former Kammer Rouge regime. The people would be able to remember forever the black years of Pol Pot, Ieng Sary and Khieu Samphan, said the Phnom Penh news agency SPK.

Space supplies

Moscow (AP) - An unmanned spacecraft Progress 17, carrying fuel, air, water, food and other supplies to the Soviet cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Aleksandr Alexandrov in the orbiting Salyut 7 complex docked with the space station. They are in their eighth week aloft.

Airliner fire

Rome (Reuters) - A Syrian Airlines Boeing 727 bound for Damascus caught fire at Rome airport as 154 passengers were boarding. There was panic among the crew steps as those boarding fled and those inside struggled to get out. The airport was closed for an hour.

Animal crackers

Moscow (AP) - Three Siberian tigers, Alisa, Astra and Tyulpan, from the Soviet Far East, a gift from Moscow Zoo to the United States in exchange for a sea lion, will be obliged to make the trip next week via Montreal. Since martial law in Poland, President Reagan has suspended Aeroflot's US landing rights.

General Doe: Military talks planned

General Samuel Doe, the Liberian leader, is scheduled to make a four-day state visit to Israel next week, the first black African head of state to make such an official trip since 29 African countries broke off diplomatic ties following the 1973 War.

Doe visit hailed by Israelis

From Christopher Walker Jerusalem

Accompanied by six ministers, the Liberian leader is expected to devote some of his time to touring army bases and discussing a military deal. His arrival will follow last week's decision by Liberia to resume diplomatic ties with Israel, a step taken earlier by Zaire in May last year.

Announcing the visit, a jubilant Israeli official cited the move by General Doe as proof that the Begin government has now succeeded in escaping from the diplomatic isolation which resulted from the war in Lebanon and the saturation bombing of Beirut.

To support the claim, he produced a list of other recent diplomatic successes, including the decision of El Salvador to transfer its embassy back to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv, the decision of the EEC countries to drop sanctions imposed on Israel after the invasion of Lebanon and the visit due later this month of Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor.

Other recent examples of Israel's strengthened world standing are listed as greatly improved relations with the United States, the repeated hints of an imminent decision by Spain to open diplomatic ties, and this week's successful visit to Romania by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, Israel's foreign minister.

"Who would have thought that a year to the day since Israel jets were launching their heaviest raids on west Beirut our foreign minister would have been warmly welcomed in the capital of a Communist country," said the Jerusalem official.

"All these things are part of a trend which started with the signing of our agreement with Lebanon in May.

Among other African states on which Israeli hopes are now pinned are Nigeria, Ivory Coast, the Central African Republic, Togo and Senegal.

Riot-tense Nigerians poll for second time

Lagos (Reuters) - Nigerians were preparing yesterday to vote in senatorial elections under the shadow of government warnings against the repetition of the violence which marred the elections for government last weekend.

At least 33 people died in Oyo state in clashes which started with allegations of election rigging during last Saturday's vote.

Voting in today's senatorial elections has been postponed in Oyo and in the restive neighbouring state of Ondo, where there were similar violent protests against the gubernatorial result. Polling will go ahead as planned in Nigeria's 17 other states.

There are no official casualty figures for the Ondo violence. In both states, which are under night curfew and heavy paramilitary police control, incumbent governors of the opposition Unity Party of Nigeria were

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Glad to be home

Anrei Berezhkov, aged 16, the Soviet diplomat's son who disappeared from his home in Washington for 24 hours last week and later denied writing to President Reagan to ask for political asylum, arriving in Paris yesterday on his way back to Russia.

On arrival later at Sheremetyevo airport, Moscow, the boy, smiling broadly and accompanied by his father, a

first secretary at the Soviet Embassy in Washington, said: "I'm glad to be back." Asked if he was pleased to leave the US, the country he allegedly wanted to make his home, he said: "Yes, glad to leave." But earlier, on leaving Washington he had asked reporters to say hello to Mick Jagger, the lead singer of the Rolling Stones, for him. "I love him", he said.

But there are fears that the "new revolution" he is propounding and its radical leftist terminology could excite suspicion and fear in some quarters.

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Coup-shocked Upper Volta tries to shake off economic torpor

From Patrick Van Rooye, Agence France-Press Ouagadougou

The political instability wracking Upper Volta in the past few months has considerably aggravated the difficult economic situation of one of the poorest countries in the world.

Worried businessmen say the new revolutionary council set up by paratroop Captain Thomas Sankara after his coup here in early August will have its work cut out restoring confidence.

Periods of crisis and political tension have afflicted this West African state for over a year.

Last November the Saye Zorbo military regime fell after two years in power. An army doctor, Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, took over. Last May he dropped Captain Sankara from the premiership and placed him in detention for a month.

Then on the night of August 4 the captain took his revenge, ousting Major Ouedraogo only moments after he had finished broadcasting an independence anniversary message to the nation.

One aspect of these repeated crises has been the closure of the landlocked state's borders, which has hampered economic

activity when the country is already badly hit by the world recession.

In addition, a curfew has been in force for many months. It has complicated the proper working of many firms. Staff have had to sleep at their places of work.

Visitors have become much rarer. The hotels at the moment have at best only 5 per cent occupancy. The tourist season looks badly compromised. There has been a spate of cancellations of hotel bookings.

"How could it be otherwise?" a hotel employee asked. "The borders still remain closed at

night. The airport is still under guard by armed soldiers, and the airlines have been forced to rearrange their flight times to abide by the curfew."

Heads of major companies call the economy stagnant. They are talking of having to lay off up to 25 per cent of their staff if there is no improvement in the near future.

"Our general expenses remain the same even when business isn't moving," one explained. "The electricity we pay for here is among the most expensive in the world."

Captain Sankara is said to be fully aware of the economic

difficulties, and some of his initial statements about getting Upper Volta moving along the path of progress have been well received.

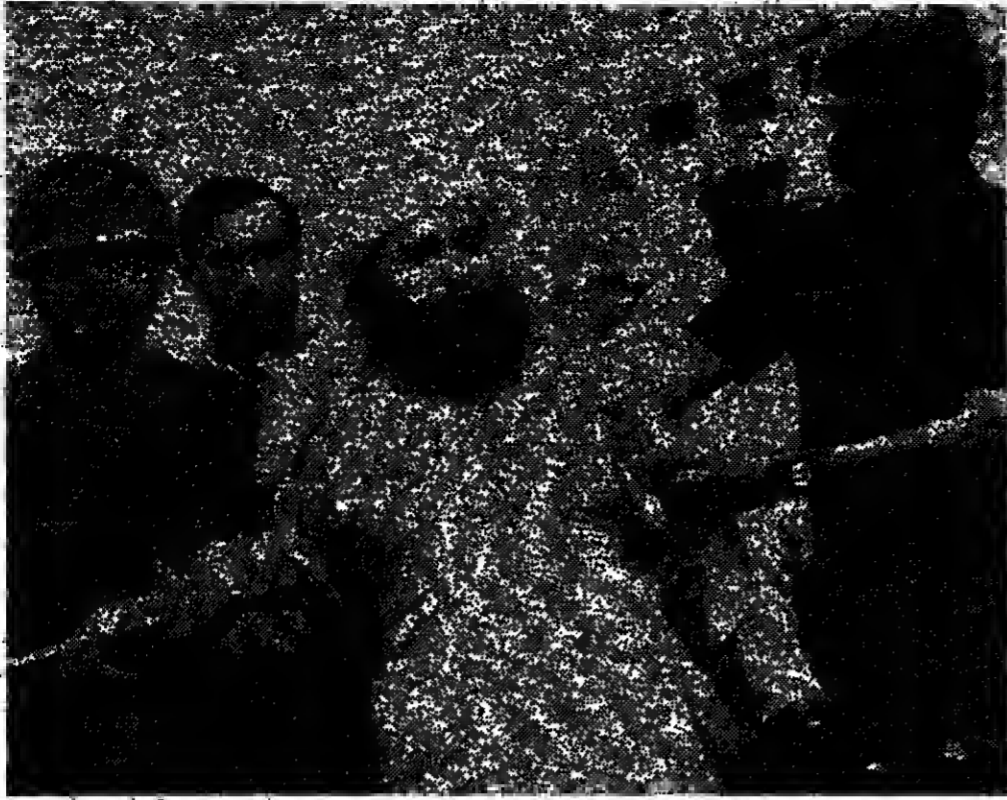
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Everybody starts hurrying home at 6

Pakistan's deepening crisis

Anti-Zia protesters sabotage railways

From Our Correspondent Islamabad
Protesters against President Zia ul-Haq's martial law regime yesterday ripped up 500 yards of railway lines in Sind province, seriously disrupting railway traffic between the northern and southern parts of Pakistan.



End of protest: Qari Sher Afzal, an opposition leader, being taken into custody by troops during anti-martial law demonstrations in Karachi.

Larkana, Mr Bhutto's home town, Jacobabad and Naushero Feroz.
At the same time, the martial law authorities have introduced harsher penalties to check anti-regime agitation across the country.

On Thursday a Lahore military court passed a sentence of one year's jail on Mr Chanduri Mohammad Arshad, a former member of General Zia's military Government and the present president of the Pakistan Democratic Party. He was also fined 20,000 rupees (£1,000).

The Karachi Bar Association and several opposition leaders have demanded an end to the summary trials and asked the Government to provide full information about the detained persons.
Many top opposition leaders have been detained for up to 90

days to prevent them taking part in the civil disobedience campaigns.
The leaders of Mr Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party have been severely dealt with. Miss Benazir Bhutto, the executed Prime Minister's daughter, has indeed been detained since March, 1981, long before the current anti-martial law agitation was planned.
The Government has repeatedly warned the public that anyone found guilty of violating martial law regulation 48 could be sentenced to 14 years' rigorous imprisonment, whipped and fined.
This martial law regulation prohibits all political activities or incitement to political activity. Opposition leaders suspect that the Government might use this regulation to force newspapers to stop publishing reports of the disturbances.

Walloons aim for victory at Waterloo

Waterloo, Belgium (AFP) - A group of Walloons, French-speaking Belgians, are on the warpath over alleged British efforts to take over the battlefield where the Duke of Wellington defeated Napoleon in 1815.
The "Walloons People's Rally" has issued its war cry: "No to the anglicizing of the battlefield."
Senator Jean Humblet, who represents the Walloon part of Brabant, which includes Waterloo, explained that the British were putting up too many signs in English to commemorate the battle.
"Six of them have been erected in the past three years on historical buildings, and we are seeing a veritable anglicizing of this famous battlefield."
Waterloo, 12 miles south of Brussels, is generally regarded as the place where Napoleon was defeated, rather than of the Duke of Wellington's victory, and has become something of a shrine for the Emperor's admirers.
About half a million tourists visit Waterloo every year, and as half are American and British, the Duke of Wellington has decided to form a committee to keep alive the memory of his ancestor.
According to Senator Humblet: "Belgium has no reason to be grateful to the Duke of Wellington, particularly as four-fifths of the Walloons fought in the battle on the side of the French."

Extradition of Gelli approved too late

Lausanne (Reuter) - The Swiss Supreme Court yesterday approved the extradition of Licio Gelli, nine days after he escaped from jail and disappeared.
The court ruled on a request filed by the Italian Government last Autumn, despite the fact that Signor Gelli's whereabouts are unknown since he escaped from Geneva's Champollion prison on August 10.
Signor Gelli, grandmaster of the illegal P2 masonic lodge whose members included Italian Cabinet ministers, bankers, generals and media personalities, was arrested in a Geneva bank on September 13 last year trying to draw \$120m (79m) from an unnumbered account.
Italian magistrates say the right-wing P2 lodge plotted against constitutional order. Its discovery in 1981 led to the downfall of the Italian Government headed by Signor Arnaldo Forlani.
Investigators also allege that Signor Gelli, an industrialist, played a role in the fraudulent collapse of the Banco Ambrosiano, which crashed last year with some \$1,400m of its funds missing.



Signor Gelli: His whereabouts unknown.

The court ruled that Signor Gelli's alleged offences, cited in the extradition request as defamation, fraud and fraudulent bankruptcy, were mainly economic and only marginally of a political nature.
There was no political reason to bar his extradition, the court said, adding it had no grounds to believe that Italian authorities would prosecute him for offences not recognized as crimes under Swiss law.

Motel driver's remorse

Alice Springs (Reuter) - The driver accused of murdering four people when his juggernaut lorry crashed into the bar of a motel bitterly regretted the incident, his lawyer said in court in Alice Springs yesterday.
Four people were killed instantly and 30 injured, 11 seriously, when the lorry ran into the crowded bar at Ayers Rock in Central Australia on Thursday. A fifth victim died later of injuries.
Douglas Crabbe, aged 36, the driver, was found by police several hours after the crash on a building site about 10 miles from the motel.
No plea was entered when Mr Crabbe appeared on four counts of murder. He was remanded in custody until another hearing scheduled for September 12.

Curfew extended for Sri Lanka pageant

From Our Correspondent, Colombo
The night curfew here and in eight other districts was extended by two hours from yesterday until Sunday to enable strengthening of the security forces in the central town of Kandy where the historic annual pageant of elephants, drummers and dancers reaches its climax this weekend.
There have been intelligence reports that anti-government forces may attempt to disrupt the pageant by throwing bombs at the elephants.
Fourteen spectators died in a stampede in 1959 when an elephant went berserk after it trod on a burning coal that fell from a brazier.
In Kandy itself the curfew will be reduced by an hour to enable spectators to return home after the show. There is a similar concession for three towns south of Colombo for a minor pageant.
Meanwhile, Mr H. W. Jayewardene, a younger brother of President Jayewardene, left yesterday to tell Asian leaders about steps being taken to restore law and order in Sri Lanka and to resettle and compensate victims of the recent communal violence in which the official death toll was 384.
Mr Jayewardene, who was the Sri Lanka Government's special envoy in discussions with the Indian Prime Minister in Delhi last week, will visit Japan, South Korea, China, the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

With an interest rate as good as ours, we don't have to shout about it.

How Prague lives with the invader

Prague (AFP) - Fifteen years after Soviet tanks crushed liberal seeds sown in the Prague spring, Czechoslovaks have resumed the quiet habits under the inexorable authority of a troubled power. The anniversary of the invasion falls tonight.
The people no longer take part in politics. They work as little as possible and live rather well, leaving a handful of dissidents to pit themselves against the regime.
Home politics have been the exclusive prerogative of the Communist Party for 35 years. Czechoslovaks no longer dispute it, going along to the "spontaneous" demonstrations in which they are invited and then counted by mass organizations.
Foreign policy has been rigidly based on lessons from Moscow, which Prague has swallowed better than any other Eastern block satellite. Criticism of the West tends to surpass even the teacher's expectations.
Yet life is good and getting better: shops are well-stocked, nobody has to queue and savings banks are overflowing. The number of television sets has doubled in the last 12 years. Foreign travel has increased and the high price of petrol does nothing to deter thousands from heading for the country and one of the longest weekends on the Continent every Friday lunchtime.
Both of Czechoslovakia's main component races gave up armed struggle against invaders centuries ago, preferring non-violent resistance. With the population leading a much better life than the Soviet invader, who is kept locked up in barracks, the Government is left to ponder how to maintain the status quo.

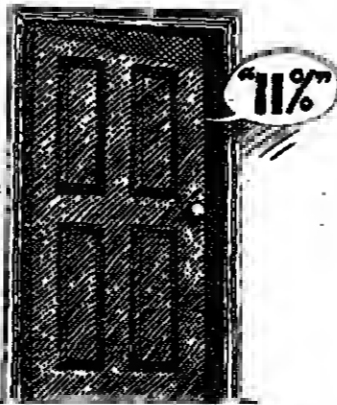
Spain to cut back on fish catches

From Richard Wigg Madrid
Spain and Morocco signed a four-year fishing agreement in Rabat yesterday under which Madrid has promised to reduce progressively its catches in Moroccan waters by 40 per cent.
Spain will also pay £360m in development aid and pay 60 per cent for the licences required to fish.
After months of difficult negotiations, Señor Fernando Morán, the Spanish Foreign Minister, had to fly to Rabat on Thursday to see King Hassan and wrest from him one last-minute concession.
This will allow fishing by the Canaries fleet in the Sardinian coastal waters declared a security zone by Morocco in the fight against the Saharan Polisario guerrillas, although the waters further south will be barred to Spain.
By accepting such an agreement, the Government has effectively begun the arduous task of restructuring Spain's fishing fleet.
The next task is to accept finally the terms of a fishing agreement with Portugal, after the lapse of the old one last December.

Tax shock for Andorra

From Our Own Correspondent, Madrid
Andorra, the principality lying between Spain and France in the Pyrenees, is in upheaval after a vote by its Parliament to introduce income tax. The tax will mainly hit banks, financial companies and hotels.
There is talk of an appeal against the new taxes which would be paid to Andorra's curules, the President of France and the Spanish Bishop of Urgel.
The Chief Minister, who had to threaten to resign to get the

proposal into the budget, only obtained 12 votes in its favour, with eight against and seven abstentions. A government crisis is not ruled out, nor are fresh elections.
Andorra's budgets previously were financed mainly of indirect taxes, which were often passed on to visitors. Now it has been hit, like everyone else, by the world recession and the effects of last November's disastrous flooding in the region.



From August 1st the interest rate for the National Savings Investment Account is increased to 11% p.a., paid in full, before tax.

A very attractive rate. And don't worry, we won't make you pay for it by having your money tied up for ages.



All we ask is one month's notice of withdrawal. You'll find full details available at your Post Office.

You're better off with an Investment Account

THE TIMES DIARY

False prophets

In 1950, weather forecasts were claimed to be 90 per cent accurate, in 1969 between 70 and 80 per cent, and nowadays 85 per cent. It all depends, of course, what you mean by accurate. In *New Scientist*, Ivor Williams, a Meteorological Office employee for seven years, summarizes his own analysis of the 5.55pm radio forecast for his area, the south-west. He concludes: "Overall, the forecasts hardly seem worthwhile. They were correct on 39 occasions; doubtful on 13 occasions; in error (not serious) on 13 occasions; and failed on 27 occasions. Leaving out the 14 doubtful forecasts, the total correct was 39 out of 79, about half." Williams says the results astounded him, not only because the reports were so inaccurate, but because they were inadequate in detail and confusingly presented. Perhaps nobody else will be very surprised, though.

Must do better

Bring back school meals. A paper to be presented at the British Association for the Advancement of Science next week analyses the contents of 500 packed lunches brought to school by children in Brighton. A third were completely unsatisfactory, lacking two or more vital ingredients - usually fruit and veg. Two thirds had at least one sweetened item, such as chocolate bars, which the authors regarded as "nutritionally redundant". When they go back to school, we are urged, more cheese in the sandwiches, and a piece of fruit every day.

O A PHSip was amused when he stepped into a London taxicab saying "St Mary le Bow, please". The driver, puzzled, said: "Doesn't ring a bell with me, sir."

One and only

The late Ira Gerstwin allowed only one of his brother's manuscripts to pass from his possession - that of George's string quartet which he gave as a birthday present to his friend, the harmonica player Larry Adler. The performer had some difficulty, when presenting the premiere of the orchestrated version in Belfast, in spelling out the name of his benefactor.

Much binding . . .

BBC's *Breakfast Time* evidently thinks TV-am has taken over completely. Lord Marsh, TV-am's chairman, was roused at home yesterday morning to receive a package from the BBC, addressed to "Lord Peter Marsh". Lord Marsh's first name, of course, is Richard. The package came from Ron Neil, editor of *Breakfast Time*, with a friendly note thanking Marsh for his much appreciated contributions "here recorded for posterity". It proved to be a video recording of an advertising man called Peter Marsh, thumbing through a morning's newspapers.



BARRY FANTONI
"I'll pretend I'm famous, and you be Michael Parkinson"

Conductor!

Michel Deneuve, a musician from Paris, has heard about the difficulties of finding the Barbican. Bringing three of his glass instruments for tomorrow's free lunchtime concert of the Baschet Sound Sculptures in the Barbican Hall, Deneuve will drive from Dover. As soon as he reaches London's outskirts he will hail a taxi, tell the cabbie his destination, and then follow him.

Over the wash basin in the lavatory of a Canadian publishing house is a sign with the exhortation: "Think. Underneath someone has written: 'Theop'."

Gnoming in

Locked out of the Chelsea flower show, garden gnomes will have a Gnommer of their own at the East of England show at Peterborough over August bank holiday weekend. There will be a great gnome march from Huntingdon, a gnome hotel, a missing gnomes bureau and a Gnomes Anonymous club at which visitors can register their own gnomes, and an adoption scheme for the gnomes. There will also be a gnome hospital in case some irritated human takes a well-directed kick at the little chaps.

A press advertisement for Agfa films has a sheet of little boys on a beach, relieving himself on the sand. Some publications, *Reader's Digest* among them, refused to run it unless the picture was retouched. The advertising agency performed the necessary function in a tinkle. It is an old adage in the advertising business that the message should be kept free of riddles. PHS

David Hewson on new doubts over the fate of First World War deserters

The men who died at dawn

The first was executed on September 8, 1914, shortly after the British Expeditionary Force's sorry retreat from Mons. A private in a Home Counties regiment who had enlisted in Dublin at the age of 17, he was discovered by a gatekeeper hiding in a barn on Baron Edward Roth's child's estate at Fourman. The court martial took place on September 6, the death sentence for desertion was confirmed the following day, and at 6.30am the next morning the news was conveyed to the soldier in the guardroom. Within 45 minutes he was put before a firing squad and shot.

During the next six years, until March 1920, courts martial condemned 3,080 men to death. All but 246 were reprieved. Three of those to die were officers, two for desertion, one for murder. Fourteen of the Chinese and Coloured Labour Corps were shot. The majority of those who died, 291, were imperial troops in the service of His Majesty, and all but 24 of the executions were carried out in France or Belgium.

It is an episode of British military history which has continually provoked an uneasy conscience. The suspicion that the reason behind most of the executions was simply *pour encourager les autres* has always existed. But the file against those responsible has remained unopened. The close relatives of those shot are now elderly and usually unwilling to open deep, private wounds.

The hard evidence - the transcripts of the courts martial themselves - has stayed firmly out of public view in the archives of the Ministry of Defence. All of them are subject to the 75-year-rule which effectively bans their release for at least a further six years on the grounds that their contents may still offend the living relatives of the condemned.

And for those who sought to ignore the circumstantial evidence there was always the great excuse: in a war which cost 8,338,315 soldiers their lives, is there really any justification for agonizing over the fate of a mere 346, 37 of them convicted murderers, and a sizeable proportion of the rest, by the mores of the age, of dubious merit?

The publication this autumn of *For the Sake of Example* by Anthony Babington, a circuit judge and himself a decorated veteran of the Second World War, will effectively settle the question of the propriety of these executions.

Babington's book is not startling in its conclusions. It confirms a number of deep-rooted suspicions: the commutation of death sentences, even those with recommendations of mercy, was abandoned at a

moment's notice if military objectives demanded it; rules designed to give the accused a fair hearing were flouted; many medical officers flatly refused to recognize that shell shock represented a real psychiatric condition which ought to be regarded as mitigation in cases of desertion.

Where the book finally destroys the notion of justice for the accused in the First World War is in its sources. Babington was the first writer to be given access to the trial transcripts. Even though he has been strictly bound not to name individual cases, the official records themselves have proved sufficiently damning for the case against the military bureaucracy to be established beyond reasonable doubt.

In Babington's own words: "Viewed by the standards of today few of the executed men received the most elemental form of justice. They were tried and sentenced by courts which often regarded themselves as mere components of the penal process and which, until the final year of the war, were asked to perform a complex judicial function without any sort of legal guidance. The cases for the accused were seldom presented adequately and sometimes never presented at all. If crucial matters were raised which might have established their innocence they were rarely investigated by members of the court. . . if soldiers accused of cowardice or of desertion in the face of the enemy had looked to the medical officers for assistance or compassion then they were likely to have looked in vain. The army doctors as a whole seem to have set themselves up as an extra branch of the provost corps, intent on securing the extreme

penalty for such offenders whenever possible."

The military necessity for exemplary executions was apparent during the winter of 1914-15 when the beleaguered BEF was suffering from a rash of desertions. A brigadier set out the rationale in a note to his divisional commander: "Every infantry officer of experience will confirm my opinion that there comes a point when men will risk imprisonment or penal servitude rather than carry on their ordinary duty. . . the execution of a man has a salutary effect on the bad and weak characters (in resisting temptation). The number of men likely to desert in the face of the enemy is very small and is composed of a few bad and weak characters. But if these few are able by their crime to obtain the safety and comfort of a prison their numbers will soon be swelled by others of slightly less weak character."

But viewed today, with the benefit of hindsight, the faults which led most men to the firing squad stem more from reaching a psychological breaking point than an inherent unwillingness to fight. A number had distinguished war records up to the time of their court martial, antecedents which were usually ignored.

Major-General Frank Richardson, a distinguished former army medical officer who was involved in three testing campaigns of the last war, which saw such battles as El Alamein, the invasion of Normandy, and the assault crossings of the Rhine and Elbe, comments in a postscript to the book: "Although in some of the cases described by Judge Babington the accused men were of bad character (some were mur-

ders) there remain far too many which must surely have aroused the pity of their comrades and distaste for such apparently indiscriminate punishment."

In 1930, after a tortuous path through the political machinery, legislation was passed which made treachery and mutiny the only military offences punishable with death. During the Second World War, only four executions for military offences took place, three for mutiny, and one for treachery. Babington surmises: "One reason for this might have been that most of the higher commanders had learnt the lessons of leadership whilst serving as junior officers on the brutal and blood-soaked wastes of the Western Front. Perhaps they realized that there are better ways of controlling men in action than by resorting to a discipline of fear."

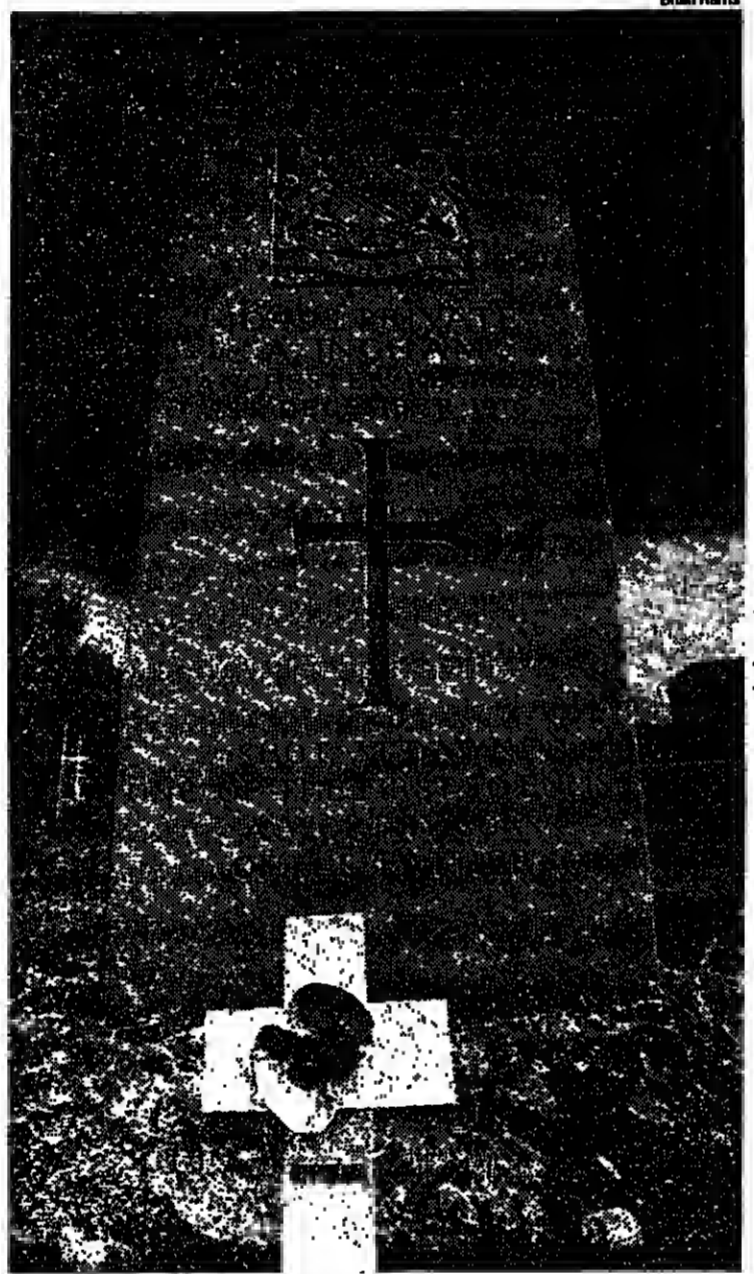
One of the most graphic descriptions of an execution on the Western Front was given by Dr. M. S. Ester who served as a medical officer in the Royal Army Medical Corps. Ester, as recorded in the Imperial War Museum's oral history section, was instructed to pin a piece of coloured flannel over the condemned man's heart to provide a target for the firing squad.

"Two men came and led him out of the hut where he'd been guarded all night. As he left the hut his legs gave way; then one could see the fear entering his heart. Rather than marched to the firing spot he was dragged along. When we got there he had his hands tied behind his back, he was put against a wall, his eyes were bandaged and the firing squad were given the order to fire."

"I wondered at the time: 'What on earth will happen if they miss him and they don't kill him completely? And I was very anxious about that, but when they fired he fell to the ground writhing as all people do - even if they've been killed they have this reflex action of writhing about which goes on for some minutes. . . I didn't know whether he was dead or not, but at that moment the sergeant in charge stepped forward, put a revolver to his head and blew his brains out."

The experience did not shake Ester. When he was asked if he thought the death penalty was justified, he replied: "I think it was absolutely essential. . . they (the men) would have begun to feel that you only had to walk off during a battle and then come back afterwards and you escaped death or mutilation. . . I think it was a necessary punishment."

For *The Sake of Example* will be published by Leo Cooper in association with Secker & Warburg, price £8.95.



Edwain Dyett with his father: "I feel for you . . ."

temporary Sub-Lieutenant Edwain Leopold Arthur Dyett was born into a services family. A forebear on his mother's side, Surgeon Bird, was one of the heroes of the siege of Lucknow during the Indian Mutiny. Both of his grandfathers were colonels who later became Knights of Windsor, honorary positions for old soldiers of distinction.

Dyett's father was a commander in the Royal Navy based in Liverpool as Chief Naval Transport Officer, and a distant cousin to General Sir John French, the Commander-in-Chief of the British Expeditionary Force. It is difficult, then, to exaggerate the anger, pain, and astonishment Commander W.H.R. Dyett must have felt when, in early 1917, he received a brief message informing him that his 21-year-old son had been tried for desertion, convicted, and shot at dawn.

If by imposing the supreme punishment the British forces were determined to make an officer an example, and there is some evidence which points in this direction, they could hardly have chosen a more unsuitable case. In one respect Dyett's death is typical of many of those executed in that it proves that justice which is tempered by degree is no justice at all. What makes his case remarkable is the furious reaction it caused in his father, and the aftermath of his campaign to clear Edwain Dyett's name.

Babington's book names none of those executed. Inquiries by *The Times* have, however, traced Dyett's younger sister, Elspeth, now in her seventies and living in Scotland. The file on the Dyett case lies in the records of the assistant provost marshal of the Royal Naval Division. When the rest of the RND's First World War archives were declassified in 1965, that file remained closed under a 100-year bar.

Through his sister, and other sources, it has been possible to establish the disquieting circumstances surrounding Dyett's execution, and its impact on the debate over service executions which ensued after the war. Until the files are opened, it will be impossible to discover how far Commander Dyett succeeded in clearing his son's name. In 1919, Dyett told his family that he was satisfied that Edwain had been exonerated. Still bitter over the execution, he took his family to America, renounced British citizenship, and never set foot in England again. The only legacy of the family in service history now is the effect that Edwain's execution had on future military policy.

He had entered the services while a midshipman on a Merchant Navy

vessel engaged in the shipping of bananas. The Royal Naval Division was a motley collection of men, mainly reservists, which was switched to land duties and had discharged itself honourably at Gallipoli. In the spring of 1916, the division went to France, a naval body surrounded by the habits of the army. The White Ensign flew over its camps, bells recorded the passage of time, and men seeking to leave the area requested "leave to go ashore".

On the Western Front, it fitted uneasily into more conventional military territory. At the time of Dyett's trial, the division was in even greater turmoil than normal through the wounding of its commander, Major-General Sir Archibald Paris. It was an inauspicious time to launch an important offensive, but on November 12, 1916, the battle of the Ancre began. A contemporary account describes the conditions in which the men of the 189th Brigade, to which Dyett belonged, were living.

"The trenches had been planned by a shortsighted fool and destroyed by a watchful enemy. . . in the firing a support line men could only stand and freeze in the mud. Yet in these trenches half the battalions detailed for the intended assault had to live, while the other half had to carry up them and across them stores and ammunition for the innumerable dumps which would feed the advancing line of battle."

There is little doubt that Dyett was an unexceptional soldier. He had already, by the time of his offence, applied for a transfer back to naval duties on the grounds that he was unsuited for service at the front. His defending officer at the court martial said that Dyett was so highly neurotic that he was unfit for service in any field.

But it seems clear that he was the victim of tainted evidence. One officer who laid the complaint

against him was universally disliked. Commander Dyett later told his family that the man had fallen out with Edwain when Dyett caught him speaking to women. . . they (the men) would have begun to feel that you only had to walk off during a battle and then come back afterwards and you escaped death or mutilation. . . I think it was a necessary punishment."

After the order for Dyett's execution was confirmed - in the face of a recommendation for mercy on two counts, his youth and inexperience and the prevailing circumstances which would have affected any young officer - Macmillan had a strong character - Macmillan passed the news to his superiors. Dyett was executed, and some days later records of the case crossed Macmillan's desk.

"I had only time to glance over them. . . but my hasty perusal sufficed to disclose who the witnesses for the prosecution were, and from that moment I resolved to shun them both, for one of them was none other than the Petty Officer who shaped so badly (in an earlier campaign), and the other an officer for whom I had a very poor regard."

Macmillan wondered if Dyett was the first martyr to the clamour for the ranks for an example to be made of an officer for desertion, a clamour, he acknowledged, which was totally justified.

"If however, they were forced to act why did they select a mere boy for their first victim? It was obvious that the lad had been commissioned to control men before he had learned to control himself. Surely there were senior officers who had been guilty of desertion or cowardice - officers whose age, experience, and responsibility made their crime so much more reprehensible."

The night before his execution, Dyett wrote to his mother: "My sorrow is for the trouble I have caused you and dad. I feel for you so much and I am sorry for bringing dishonour upon you all."

The battalion chaplain, who witnessed the execution by firing squad, later wrote to Dyett's family to tell them of the burial. "I accompanied his body in an ambulance-car several miles away to a beautiful little cemetery, near a small town quite close to the sea, and here we buried him with a Church of England service." The grave is in a communal cemetery at Le Crotoy on the Somme estuary a few miles from Abbeville.

Dyett's death was later taken up by Herbert Bottomley in his magazine *John Bull*, anonymously and somewhat sympathetically. A.P. Herbert, an adjutant in another 189th brigade unit who knew most of the details of the Dyett case and discussed it with Commander Dyett after the war, used it as the basis for his book *The Secret Battle*, which documents the story of an heroic soldier who is eventually shot for desertion.

Herbert's book in which the central character is called Harry Penrose, ends with the words: "That is the gist of it; that my friend Harry was shot for cowardice - and he was one of the bravest men I ever knew."

The public concern which followed Herbert's book and Bottomley's revelations eventually changed the law on military executions. But this brought no comfort to the Dyett family.

Edmund Akenhead

A little logic with the logodaedali

Fine words may butter no parsnip, but words in general provide bread and butter for those harmless drudges (as Samuel Johnson describes them), the lexicographers and, of course, those daily deceivers the crossword compilers.

Together they provide an interesting example of symbiosis, and now that Collins Dictionaries have undertaken the sponsorship of the annual crossword championships we may expect to find the effect of crosswords on dictionaries and vice versa becoming more marked.

How about a new "usage label" to join (colloq), (slang), (joc), (derog) and (vulg) in the form of (cwp) for "crossword puzzles"? This could appear with e.g. "bower=violinist", "lower=river, Po, Exe, Fal, Ure, Dee, Lea etc", "lower=cow", "lower=demonstrator", and "lower=breakdown recovery vehicle" - it is extraordinary how many -ow words lead themselves to such duplicity.

Some dictionaries are created almost exclusively for crossword solvers and compilers. Such a one is *The Anagram Dictionary* by Michael Curll, recently published at £2.95 by Papermac, the paperback division of Macmillan. I looked to see if it had anything to add to "Derange grandee, angered and enraged by exploding grenade" and it had - the grandee should of course have been en garde; "angered" and "enraged" form what the author calls cognate anagrams, or anagrams which define each other.

In addition to such well-known ones as "Honor est a Nilo" for "Horatio Nelson" and "Flit on, cheering angel" for "Florence Nightingale", there are some up-to-date ones. You may make your choice between "That great character" and "Meg, the arch tartar" (8,8) for one of these (no prizes offered).

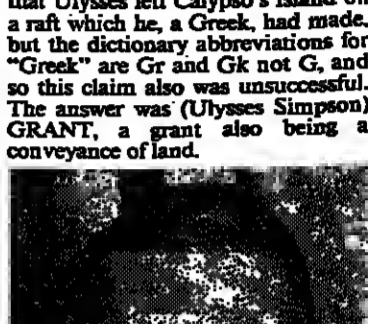
Throughout the years of the crossword championship competitions he knows that the dictionaries I have relied on have been the *Concise Oxford* and the *Chambers 20th Century*. Old-time navigators used to take three chronometers to provide a majority decision should one of them fail to keep proper time, and now the *Collins English Dictionary* has been added to make a trio of referees. Solvers of *Times* puzzles, however, need not think that they should have all these dictionaries since it is only very rarely that a word is used that does not appear in all three. They may be relieved to hear that my own reference books do not include that magnum opus, the *Oxford English Dictionary*, my reasoning being that if a word or a spelling or a meaning is only to be found in the *OED* it is unlikely to be known to the majority of readers.

When, early this year, I was first introduced to the *Collins English Dictionary* I turned at once to "infer" and saw to my chagrin that it included "to hint or imply" among its definitions, the said chagrin however, being immediately dispersed by the following note: "Usage. The use of *infer* in the sense of *imply* often occurs in both speech and writing but is avoided by all careful speakers and writers of English." Exactly - and pausing only to check that the definitions of the verb "substitute" did not include "replace" I decided the *Collins* had the right ideas, and I found that its policy of giving almost every derivative word its own main heading made such words easier to

find than in other dictionaries in which to find (for instance) "butter-cup" you have to peruse the paragraph under "butter". Its inclusion of some proper names is also helpful.

The five regional finals organized and stage-managed by Harold Franklin, the impresario who helped to plan the original mammoth event in London in 1970, went without a hitch, and claims for alternative answers were few, and one of them was even successful at the Leeds event.

At the London A Final "Conveyance for Ulysses" (5) (G-A-T) produced GRANT under the erroneous belief that Polyphemus conveyed Ulysses somewhere, and also GRAFT on the ground that a graft is a conveyance of something from Place A to Place B (eg a skin-graft) and that Ulysses was carried on a G (reek) RAPT; ingenious in that Ulysses left Calypso's island on a raft which he, a Greek, had made, but the dictionary abbreviations for "Greek" are Gr and Gk not G, and so this claim also was unsuccessful. The answer was (Ulysses Simpson) GRANT, a grant also being a conveyance of land.



John Sykes, champion champion

Talking of giants, among the 19 other finalists whom Tony Sever, the reigning champion since 1981, will be meeting will be James Atkins, runner-up in the original 1970 championship and himself champion in 1971 and on one subsequent occasion, and the redoubtable Dr John Sykes, who, being a lexicographer, has naturally won the championship more often than anyone else. There are two women finalists, Mrs Anne Bradford and Miss Joan Todd, the runners-up in the London A and B regional finals, who will be bidding to end the run of male success.

The National Final of the Collins Dictionaries-Times Crossword Championship takes place at the Park Lane Hotel, London, on Sunday September 4. There will be accommodation for up to 300 spectators at £2 a head, who are asked to arrive in good time to be seated by 1.30pm. Spectators will be given the puzzles to solve and there will be prizes for the first correct solutions handed in (no one to win more than once).

It is planned to have "quickie" puzzle contests to fill in spare moments between the four main puzzle sessions. The entry fee will also cover light refreshments. It is expected that the final prize-giving will take place at about 5.15pm.

The author is *Crossword Editor* of *The Times*. He retires this autumn after 18 years.

Peter Nichols

A new view from the rectory

From Clee to Heaven the beacon burns,
The shires have seen it plain,
From north to south the sign returns
And beacons burn again.

From the steep hill beside the rectory one can see, on a clear day 15 miles to the south-east, Clee Hill, where Housman's beacon celebrated Victoria's jubilee. And on such a day this week we climbed to the Iron Age fort, with its three eroded ramparts, and stared west towards the Welsh hills then south along the Clee valley, coming round at last to the white radar sphere on distant Clee.

Our visitor thought this Shropshire and Welsh borders landscape as perfect as he'd seen anywhere. The heat of a stray ewe and coughing of a pheasant were the only sounds to break the profound afternoon peace until with a sudden shriek and roar - two jet fighters hurtled from the south. They almost touched the ancient bastion where we stood, hanking up the valley to make their turn about Montgomery. Instantly silence fell again. Our friend had thrown himself down and lay cowering.

What is that terrifying sound
If not a bolt from God?
Pray, stretch yourselves upon the ground,
Ay, hold fast to the sod.

Tis not from God, we made reply,
More like from Norfolk way;
It takes no time for jets to fly
That far twelve times a day.

From Fenland flat those RAF-lads
To blue-remembered hills,
They give new sense to Housman's dream
About an air that kills.

Ah, tis not for the scenery!
No, Jack, they come from Fen
To dodge the radar up on Clee -
Ooops, here they come again!

Those fighters tore the sky in two,
My friend, he said a prayer for blue
Nor Johnny-head-in-air,
We watched them graze the vale of Clee

To pass their tests at Clee,
"I trust," said Jack, "they fright the Hun
For, God, they frighten me!"

I said, "Would 't were the Prussians
That had us by the ears;
Nay, lad, tis more the Russians
That F-for-Freddie fears."

"Dost mean they've got their eyes
on
Yon Ludlow Town afar?"
He scanned the blue horizon -
"What's got into the Tsar?"

"No Tsar," said I, "nor Romanov
Lusts for Ludlow Town;
Nay, tis the likes of Andropov
Would bring all England down -
"And Scotland brave and Wales the bold,
Not only Ludlow Town."

"For why?" quoth Jack, "since I've
been told
We'm but a third-class pow'r."

"For missiles good and steady
Housed here by the Yank.
Behind each F-for-Freddie
You'll find an Aitch-for-Hank."

"Our land's an aircraft carrier
From Looe to Aberdeen -
Below decks Hawk and Harrier,
Above a country scene."

And now he smote his forehead,
Did simple-minded Jack:
"Then tis but Yankee warhead
That makes us fear attack!"
I stood upon the Iron Age fort
And laughed at honest Jack.
His brow was furrowed deep with thought -
When "Christ! they're coming back!"
This fighter blew off poor Jack's hat,
It frightened even me.
Said he "While we've got friends like that
We need no enemy."
In valleys of springs of rivers
By Owy and Tern and Clee,
The country for easy livers,
The quietest under the sun.

The author's most recent play, *Poppy*, was produced by the RSC last year.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE SOVIET CHALLENGE: III

A realistic assessment of Moscow's policies is the first step towards organizing a coherent defence. The need for an adequate military budget is generally acknowledged, even if the precise level and distribution of expenditure is hotly debated. Less widely realized, however, is that armed force is only one of the options pursued by the Soviet leaders to promote what they argue is an inevitable transition from capitalism to Soviet-style socialism.

The numerous Soviet espionage operations uncovered in the West are dismissed by many as no worse than the activities of Western intelligence services against the USSR. Yet unlike the closed society of the USSR the very freedoms enjoyed by the public in the West make it open to penetration. When spies are discovered in top-secret government departments, proposals for positive vetting are debated but widely dismissed as unnecessary. Agents of influence are revealed in government, business, and media circles but are usually regarded as insignificant in their impact on policy. Of course it would be absurd to try to defend Western values by suppressing freedom: but the only alternative is to make every effort to expose and combat the damage caused by negligence.

The Soviet authorities go to great effort and expense to spread misleading propaganda. British schools and colleges receive free of charge *Novosti* periodicals and booklets, exaggerating every positive aspect of Soviet life and suppressing all the shortcomings, while at the same time crudely distorting the policies of Western governments. Much of this material is primitive, even counter-productive. Yet when even the respected *Encyclopaedia Britannica* contains entries by Soviet authors which are far from presenting life in the USSR as it really is, the need for some

effective counter-measures becomes clear.

It makes little sense to spend the country's wealth on weapons of mass destruction which, as deterrents, it is hoped never to use, while simultaneously trying to economize by reducing the educational budget for Russian studies or cutting the external services of the BBC. Education about the Soviet system and information about its impact on world events form a vital part of our defence and are cheap in comparison with tanks and missiles.

The repeated acts of Soviet repression in the countries of Eastern Europe refine the theory that by expanding trade based on cheap credit it might prove possible to woo them from the Soviet empire. Moscow has retained control, while the Western banking system has suffered considerable losses. Other approaches seem more hopeful in pursuing some loosening of the Soviet grip. By the Helsinki Accords and other international agreements the West has the right, indeed the duty, to expand the flow of information, encouraging free thought, supporting those who campaign for human rights and furthering the drive to establish independent trade union movements.

With Soviet troops fighting in Afghanistan it would be valuable to extend Western broadcasting to the major nationalities not yet covered by programmes in their own languages. The clandestine *Samizdat* journals are already questioning why nations in the USSR which are themselves suffering from oppression should send their sons to die in a colonialist war. These doubts can be given much wider circulation through radio broadcasts. Moscow denounces trunk-fest Western reporting as provocation or psychological warfare, but it is sufficient response to cite by way of contrast the

distorted Soviet broadcasting on Northern Ireland. Western society thrives on open debate, while the Soviet leadership fears all free discussion.

Coordination of military defence has largely been achieved through Nato, but there is little sign of a coherent policy on economic matters. The US-Soviet grain deals, the gas pipeline from Siberia to Western Europe, supplying high technology on low-interest loans, are only a few of the many issues on which agreement has been sadly lacking. The United States, Western Europe and Japan must act in closer cooperation if the threat of sanctions is to have any restraining influence on Soviet expansionism. Measures to prevent Soviet acquisition of technology with military applications should be strengthened. Even if restricted materials can still be acquired by illegal means, the cost to Moscow in scarce hard currency is greatly increased.

In economic aid to the Third World the Soviet record is poor; the USSR is better able to supply weapons and promote conflict. New Marxist-Leninist regimes benefit from Soviet experience in preserving their political power, but Moscow is not a useful source of advice or aid in solving economic problems. The West has much more to offer, and could preempt Soviet involvement by promoting economic development and democratic government in countries threatened by internal strife. Too often ignorance of local politics has led to incorrect assessments and failure to act in time.

The countries of the West have many faults, but they also have the freedom to discuss and correct them. We have no walls or fences to stop mass emigration; our problem, on the contrary, is to stem immigration from less fortunate lands. To continue to prosper, however, we need foresight and resolution, and we need them now.

THE ENGLISHNESS OF KUNSTGESCHICHTE

Hitler's bombers destroyed many buildings England would like still to have. But Hitler's Jew-baiters gave England a man who has taught us to read those that remain, and those that have sprung up since, with a fresh and accurate eye. Sir Nikolaus Pevsner, who has just died, was one of those great spirits who made English culture an indebted beneficiary of the tragic persecution of German Jewry.

In his field alone are the refugee names of Wittkower, Wind, the Warburg Institute itself which was removed from Hamburg to London in 1936, and Sir Ernst Gombrich who came with it as a young research assistant. They have transformed the academic study of art here, and Pevsner, even more than the others, imparted motion to the rolling revolution of retrospective taste.

He was already a student of English art and architecture when he fled Germany in 1934. He came equipped with the formidable apparatus of the German school of art history. He found here material for its exercise that seemed naturally suited to his sensibility. "The Englishness of English Art" he called his Reith lectures. He, the foreign refugee, was that quality's acutest analyst and historian; his vision made all the more sensitive by observation of continental European styles and periods. In the *Buildings of England* series for Penguin the Teutonic method went to work

on the vernacular of the rambling English countryside, an ominous collision. But whether the method relented or the material pulled itself together, the outcome is a perfect blend and a source of unflinching pleasure.

Every county of England (the old, the proper counties); from Cornwall to Staffordshire by way of Gilbert Scott, Allen Lane of Penguins deserves much of the credit for making it so that the great gazetteer was not merely a library reference book but went out and about in hand and pocket. It is a pity that that Penguin put the series out of soft covers part way through. The early paperbacks cost less, weigh less, slip into the pocket and even hold together - they must have had good glue in those days.

From the habit of consulting these volumes you learn to read a building, through an exemplary medium of concise description. Pevsner had no time to waste and he wastes none of his readers' with irrelevant details or ornamental prose. Every building described he (or, in the case of a few counties towards the end, his collaborating editors) had seen. His notes fit it on the page. Used as a *valde-mecum* the *Buildings* is a weaver of detours and makes you late for every appointment.

Nor is the doctor as dry as he is sometimes thought. Sample

him on the subject of the little church of St Mary at Lawton in Essex. He is standing in the fourteenth-century chancel.

The large N and S windows of three lights have eight different tracery patterns of which at least five are quite unusual and must probably be credited to the imagination of this particular master mason.

The easternmost N window has instead of foliage two chains of little men. They dance, wrestle, play musical instruments, hold each other by their feet.

The spandrels again are full of figures, their heads broken off by vandals. Some are angels making music on the portable organ, psalter, gittern, organistrum (hurdy-gurdy) and harp.

Precision matches the rising excitement. And you can tell he is excited because there follows one of his rare *sententiosus* asides (of which a small treasury ought to be compiled). A *teretibus* (by C. F. Hayward, 1884) seeks to outdo in alabaster the magnificence of the medieval stone-work. "It needs all the Victorian self-confidence not to restrain oneself in the presence of so much ornamental carving as the interior of the chancel displays."

To come upon such wonder in a village church standing among corn fields above the river Stour... that the record of tens of thousands of other such discoveries, and a way of looking, is Pevsner's gift to his adopted country.

Latvian nationalism

From Mr. Andrei Dubrovsky

Sir, Nationalism is "the most powerful chemical solvent" which is going to bring the Soviet Union crashing down in ruins, writes Mr. Bernard Levin in his article on Soviet Latvia (August 5). Very dramatic Mr. Levin - will the Soviet Union survive until next week?

Well, the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic was certainly doing fine the week Mr. Levin was typing out his awful prophecies of doom. I was there, on holiday, just prior to coming to London. I can report that all appeared calm and I found the people proud, hospitable and - dare I say it - happy. Living standards in Latvia seemed to me, if anything, higher than in other parts of the Soviet Union.

But what about the ruthless crushing of Latvian nationalism? Latvian as a language is compulsory in schools and all other educational establishments. There are nine professional theatres, national film studios and TV and radio channels all using the Latvian language. For a population of 2.5 million there are 49 newspapers and 51 magazines in Latvian and around 13 million books published each year in the national language.

Incidentally, a remark made to me by an old man in Riga remains in my mind. "We did not establish

Soviet power here in 1940," he said. "We restored it. We proclaimed the Soviet Republic of Latvia in 1918. That puts a slightly different perspective on Mr. Levin's assertions of a Soviet seizure of Latvia in 1940 (not 1941).

Really, Mr. Levin should not believe all the highly coloured tales in the publications he receives from emigre sources around the world. His hatred of my country seems to offset his knowledge of the basic journalistic principle of checking sources.

Yours sincerely,
ANDREI DUBROVSKY,
Novosti Press Agency,
3 Rossary Gardens, SW7,
August 15.

especially at the very demanding A level. In no way can time be spared for general class teaching by these specialists.

Who, therefore, will teach these so-called economic "facts of life"? Teachers in cognate areas such as sociology and history are unlikely to welcome this opportunity. We are then faced with a teaching activity of less than good quality.

Further, if history has sometimes raised doubts concerning exposure to bias, what a fruitful field is offered by economic doctrines. Lastly, as your correspondent so rightly points out, what do we throw out in order to make room for this?

There is already a very wide gulf between those who make and control broad policy in Westminster and those who execute it at the other end. I remain equally concerned that the Prime Minister's new education adviser seems to have no working experience of education below university level. This cannot be good.

Good institutions, whether schools or companies, are always improved by consultation. There seems to be a marked absence of this in these two latest decisions.

Yours very truly,
J. R. NORTHEAST,
Headmaster,
Pembroke School,
Bush,
Pembroke,
August 12.

Quality of teaching

From Mr. J. R. Northeast

Sir, There can be no disputing the message that will arise from the Secretary of State for Education's latest intentions. The report from your Education Correspondent (August 11) is very disturbing to those in the sharp end of school operation.

Presumably, very large schools such as this one commensurate and more varied resources than others. Nevertheless, the economics department here is already run off its feet with very large classes,

Familiar ring of empire building

From Mr. Matthew Parris, MP for Derbyshire West (Conservative)

Sir, It is amusing to run through today's leading article ("The Soviet Challenge" August 18) reading "1883" for "1983" and "The British Empire" for "The Soviet Union".

The references to Afghanistan sound familiar. The reference to Czechoslovakia would be out of place - but then the South African War (self-defence, of course) still lay dead. We were quietly allowing our way into Southern Rhodesia at the time.

The attention you devote to the repressive domestic policy of the Great Power would be inappropriate if we were a free people, and it is interesting to ask whether that made us less dangerous to the foreign governments which got in our way.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

When speed limits fail to save lives

From Dr Robert Reid

Sir, How effective is your reported reduction (August 13) in the 70 mph speed limit for coaches likely to be?

Most modern vehicles can and do travel on motorways at speeds far greater than the law allows. Any unusually law-abiding motorist who drives on the inside lane of a motorway at less than 70 mph will frequently find himself being overtaken by a fully-laden heavy lorry driven at 80 mph, which is in turn being overtaken by a fully laden coach driven at 90 mph.

When a vehicle collides with an object - a car or a group of human beings - is related to the energy dissipated on impact. This energy is directly proportional to the square of the velocity of the vehicle. So a coach weighing 10 times more than a passenger car and moving at 70 mph compared with a car's 50 mph needs to dissipate on impact about 20 times as much energy.

For a coach moving at 90 mph the figure is more than 30 times. It is little wonder, therefore, that the extent of human injury from coach collisions is so devastating, and more than likely that a general reduction in the speed of heavy vehicles would save a considerable number of lives.

The effectiveness of any new measure ultimately depends on the ability not just to set a speed limit but to impose it. However, present control is largely dependent on a driver's consciousness of some notional figure and therefore can never be properly effective. One solution is to impose a more thorough policing system - but there are others. A simple technical device

already exists which monitors the time a driver spends at the wheel, and there is no good reason why another should not monitor speed.

Until a system can be put into operation which succeeds in rigorously fixing a limit on the speed of heavy vehicles a new notional value will be as ineffective as the present one and the carnage will continue.

Yours etc,
ROBERT REID,
50 Westcroft Square, W6,
August 18.

From Mr Michael S. Macoun

Sir, Having arrived on the scene of yesterday's disaster on the M4, shortly after a heavily-loaded truck careered out of control across the central reservation to sever a crowded coach travelling in the opposite direction in two, with appalling consequences in loss of life and injury, I am prompted to ask why on earth we, in overcrowded and traffic-congested Britain, still tolerate a 70mph speed limit on our motorways.

In North America, with its vast area and thousands of miles of highways - often with little traffic - the maximum speed permitted is 55-65mph (varying according to state, province, etc) - which is enforced by highway patrols for a motorist's safety.

Are we all becoming mad motorised Gadarene swine? Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL MACOUN,
Furzedown,
Rowledge,
Farnham,
Surrey,
August 18.

Treating people - and the community

From the Chairman of the Chiropractic Advancement Association

Sir, My association, which represents the interests of chiropractic patients, welcomes the BMA's inquiry into alternative forms of health treatment and shares its concern about some of the claims made and methods used by para-medical practitioners.

The main problem facing the BMA is that it appears to have a vested interest in the results of the inquiry, which will thus be regarded with suspicion by those in the medical profession, a scepticism encouraged by the very short time allowed for filing evidence.

I would suggest that the most appropriate forum for investigating the claims and scope of alternative health care systems is a parliamentary select committee. It would be able to call for and question reasoned evidence, calling for technical help on scientific assessments drawn from the medical profession and elsewhere.

The New Zealand Government appointed a commission of inquiry into chiropractic, under a leading QC, and its members went round the world to gather evidence and to hear views from and on chiropractors. In New Zealand a public hearing was held, at which evidence from all parties was subject to argument by counsel.

The process was long but the report was thorough and its recommendations balanced the interests of medical practitioners, chiropractors and the public. This, believe it or not, is the model we should look to here.

Yours faithfully,
VICOR EARI, Chairman,
The Chiropractic Advancement Association,
32 Trevelyan Way,
Berkhamshead,
Herefordshire.

alternative treatments for disease which contrast with the ungenerous attitude of much of the medical world to such alternatives. Another fast-growing dimension to health care which often provokes a similarly hostile reaction from the medical profession is community health.

Community health initiatives are, in the main, a reaction to a National Health Service that is overwhelmingly a service to keep people healthy. The sickness service dominates political debate about the nation's health and it devours the vast majority of resources allocated to health.

There are, today, well over one thousand community health groups. They are concerned with the prevention of ill-health through suitable diet and exercise, health education, pre and post-natal care, sharing experience of the management of, for example, depression or drug dependency, or mental illness, women's health needs and so on.

It has been argued that some acute hospital services might be transferred to the community; for example that a proportion of heart attack victims derive little benefit from hospital treatment and that many current surgical operations could be on an outpatient basis or with overnight admission only.

I am glad that the DHSS has recently funded a unit to provide Community Health Initiatives with the National Council for Voluntary Organisations.

One of our goals is to win the co-operation of the medical profession so that community health initiatives, as much as alternative treatments for ill-health, can be seen to be a complementary part of a service that might then more appropriately be called a national health service.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS HINTON,
Director of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations,
26 Bedford Square, WC1.

Loop-hole in Act

From Mr Toby Eckersley

Sir, Lord Harris of Greenwich (feature, August 9) complains about Islington Council's abuse of its powers in granting licences to a co-operative to engage in producing a newspaper favouring the council's political views, and accuses the Government of opening a loophole for this expenditure. His concern is academic.

The alleged loophole arises in connection with powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act where total expenditure in any one year is limited to the product of a 2p rate. But Section 142 permits unlimited expenditure on information and publicity.

If the co-operative route did not exist, Islington would follow Southwark's example and take on its own staff to engage in precisely the same activity. A wider review of local government powers in this area is urgently called for.

Yours faithfully,
TOBY ECKERSLEY,
London Borough of Southwark,
Town Hall,
Peckham Road, SE5,
August 9.

Computerized markets

From Mr R. S. Musgrave

Sir, I second your suggestion (August 10) that the Met Office and British Telecom come together to provide a weather information service that is paid for via the telephone bill. But British Telecom should do the same for anyone wanting to provide information for a fee over the phone.

For example, placing a small ad in a newspaper and ploughing through columns of such ads is a very inefficient method of matching buyer and seller compared to the speed with which a computer can do the job. But computerized markets like this will not really come into their own until there is an equally cheap method for information providers to pass the information provider, that is by crediting the telephone account of one and debiting that of the other.

The information-revolution which is upon us will be hampered unless the above is implemented.

Yours faithfully,
R. S. MUSGRAVE,
24 Garden Avenue,
Framwellgate Moor,
Durham.

LSO's programming

From the Chairman of The London Symphony Orchestra

Sir, Having just returned from a highly successful visit to the Salzburg Festival it is with some dismay that we hear from Mr Bryan Appleby, who is responsible for "radical upheaval" and "profound consequences" in the serious music industry as a result of our current negotiations with the Barbican Centre about our future artistic policy in our home in the City of London.

We are indeed in the process of negotiating our future in The Barbican. As the only London orchestra with a home we have built on this privilege and keenly feel our responsibility and artistic commitment to the City of London and to our audience.

Our "lack lustre" list of conductors in the last year has included our music director, Claudio Abbado, Sir Colin Davis, Rafael Kubelik and Bolshoi director Yuri Simonov. Our "poor programming" has included two performances of Stockhausen's masterpiece for three orchestras *Gruppen* which is rarely attempted anywhere in the world, a Brahms cycle under Kubelik described as "the season's outstanding musical events" (*The Guardian*), and all the major works of Tippett and Berioz.

Our first commitment is an artistic one. Since everything we have done so far has been breaking new ground, some ideas have inevitably worked better than others. We are obviously considering a closer identity with The Barbican and we are continuously researching the questions of programming, starting times, promotion, audience development and education.

If we were to settle down to a

Salmon in danger

From Mr T. D. Thompson

Sir, Mr E. J. Lipscombe's letter in Scottish salmon stocks (August 12) calls for quick and decisive action by the new Minister of State at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. He does not mention the Secretary of State for Scotland (equally new) within whose authority decisions affecting Scottish salmon stocks are made.

The whole subject of salmon is a pot-pourri of a few observed facts and an enormous welter of opinion - scientific and otherwise. It is not surprising that the government departments charged with the administration of the salmon laws (which are over 100 years old and at least 20 years out of date) are loath to initiate changes when every expert opinion they hear is challenged by other, equally convinced, experts.

The Salmon & Trout Association are vitally interested in this question and our policy is based on three salient facts:

1. The real-terms market price of salmon has fallen very considerably in recent years as farmed fish take a growing share of a slow-growing, or even static, demand.
2. The existing salmon laws were formulated before angling for salmon became a popular activity which now contributes infinitely more to rural economies in Scotland, Wales and parts of England than netting does.
3. People (like Mr Lipscombe) who made annual contributions to those economies are finally becoming discouraged.

The Salmon & Trout Association must take the conservative view that the UK's salmon resource will not increase significantly beyond its present levels. Those levels are still high enough to support buoyant local economies based on visiting anglers and the law (which should be applicable throughout the UK,

Manicheism on Mexico

From the Mexican Ambassador

Sir, Not without considerable surprise I found your paper indulging in undisguised manicheism (leader, August 13). Everything that my Government is doing deserves your editorial wrath.

Our Central American policy needs a justification. Regardless that many European countries including Great Britain have supported it, you blatantly affirm that Mexico's stand is nearsighted and dangerous. Undeterred by history, you vigorously wave the domino theory as if a country with the profound culture of Mexico could not rely on its manifold spiritual values.

Mexico's bilateral relations with the US far no better. A lack of vision seems to be the Mexican lot. And your editorial conveniently forgets that without the constant and continued lowering of the prices of basic commodities, upon which the

Dover's Powder

From Mr C. B. Perry

Sir, Philip Howard ("Elbow room for doctors", August 9) is hardly fair to Dr Thomas Dover.

Dover never claimed to have treated Sydenham for smallpox. On the contrary, in his book *The Ancient Physician's Legacy to his Country*, first published in 1732, he states (pages 119-120) that Sydenham treated him for smallpox and that the treatment he received, and which he recommends, consisted, not of oil of vitriol (sulphuric acid) but of 12 bottles of small-beer (probably very different from our beer) acidulated with spirit of vitriol every 24 hours.

This suggests that Sydenham was well aware of the risk of dehydration to a febrile patient.

Dover's book was an 18th-century best-seller and there were six editions before his death in 1742.

Yours faithfully,
C. BRUCE PERRY,
Bechfield,
54 Grove Road,
Coombe Dingle, Bristol.

Burton's tomb

From the Rev James Tolhurst

Sir, A recent correspondent (July 6) expressed concern about the condition of the Burton mausoleum in our cemetery, which receives its fair share of visitors due to its unusual design.

It ought to be pointed out that this is a private cemetery which was used by many leading Catholic families in the last century and that our policy has been to allow free access without charge, including guide where required. (The church contains a memorial window to Sir Richard Burton, which many visitors miss).

Our problem, in common with many private owners of Britain's heritage, is general maintenance. There is unfortunately a vicious circle connecting visitors with charges. The alternative is to launch the ubiquitous appeal. It might surprise people to know that our neighbours, St Mary the Virgin, need £25,000 to landscape a smaller area.

However, thanks to the generosity of parishioners who have donated their time and energy, we have greatly improved the appearance of our cemetery and hope that visitors will admire our tombs apart from our most famous resident.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES TOLHURST,
St Mary Magdalen Presbytery,
North Worpole Way, SW14.

Pure bunkum

From Mr Kevin Redpath

Sir, An item bun purchased today, contained the following cryptic code of additives: E102, E127, E202, E282, E321, E332, E407, E471, E472a and E472c. Does this indicate a slight decline in the sensitivity of the British palate?

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
KEVIN REDPATH,
Chingate,
Glastonbury,
Somerset.

Third World relies, or the catastrophic rise in interest rates, Mexico would have easily avoided its present financial straits.

All the blame for the "wet-backs" is also put on Mexico. Nothing is said about the unprovoked and unjust commercial boycott of Mexican products which has caused further unemployment; nor about the constant refusal of the US government legally to protect the basic human rights of foreign workmen. And the faulty situation remains, and my compatriots continue to be wilfully and unmercifully exploited.

The remarks your editorial makes about the Mexican system of government worry me a great deal. I wonder if your correspondent in Mexico City is keeping abreast of developments. One quarter of the membership of the Chamber of Deputies, and purely on overall rating percentages, goes to parties in the opposition, which have created an active parliamentary life. This,

coupled with the recent trend in local elections, points to the obvious conclusion that Mexico is solving its present problems in a democratic fashion.

The Revolutionary Party continues to govern not because of its secretiveness and arbitrariness, as you suggest, but because it represents a majority of the political forces in today's Mexico. Its candidates certainly reveal the policies they intend to follow, and public opinion takes due notice of any deviation.

Your editorial harps on the idea of the "indeterminability" and "unpredictability" of Mexican politics. May I humbly suggest that a fair consideration of the way things actually are in Mexico will surely enable *The Times* to overcome such unwelcome and unnecessary perplexities.

Yours sincerely,
F. CUEVAS CANCINO,
Embassy of Mexico,
8 Halkin Street, SW1.

SOCIAL NEWS

Princess Margaret celebrates her birthday tomorrow. Princess Anne will present the prizes for the FEI European Three-Day Event Championships for Young Riders to be held at Burghley, Stamford, Lincolnshire, on September 10.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as President of the English-Speaking Union, will present the 1963 English language competition prizes and be in the chair at a meeting of the committee at Buckingham Palace on November 1.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. R. F. Ballantyne and Miss E. J. Dodds. The engagement is announced between Rupert, younger son of the late Forsy Ballantyne and Mrs B. Ballantyne of Bowdon, Cheshire, and Elizabeth, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J. P. Dodds, of Doudie, Northamptonshire.

Mr D. K. Hibbs and Miss J. M. McGown. The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs K. Hibbs of Shirley, West Midlands, and Judith, daughter of Dr and Mrs F. M. McGown, of Stoodley Massey, Essex.

Marriages

Mr C. D. Andry and Miss V. M. Lovett. The marriage took place on August 13 at Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts, of Mr Christopher Andry, son of Mr Peter Andry and Mrs Rosemary Barrall, of London, and Miss Virginia Lovett, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. M. Lovett, of Boston, United States.

Mr A. L. T. Nich-Smith and Miss M. C. Arncliffe. The marriage took place quietly in London on August 13 of Mr Andrew Nich-Smith, of Highgate, and Miss Marion Arncliffe, of Kingston-upon-Thames.

Latest appointments

Dr Robie Clarke, assistant director of the Natural Environment Research Council's Institute of Hydrology at Wallingford, Oxfordshire, to be director of the Freshwater Biological Association at its headquarters in Windermere from October 1, in succession to Mr David Le Cren.

Birthdays

TODAY: Mr Reginald Bevins, 75; Lieutenant-General Sir John Cowley, 78; Mr John Embury, 31; Sir Frank Englewood, 93; Mr Anatole Fistioulart, 76; Professor Sir John Plumb, 72; General Sir Nigel Packer, 76; Mr Johnny Prescott, 45; Baroness Robson of Kiddingston, 64.

TOMORROW: Mr A. C. Abbott, 62; Dame Janet Baker, 50; Count Basie, 79; Lord Beswick, 71; Mr Christopher Brasher, 55; Sir Kenneth Cork, 70; Lord Goodman, CH, 70; the Hon Gerald Lascelles, 59; Mr Barry Norman, 50; Mr Sam Toy, 60; Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Vickers, 55; Mr Mike Weston, 45.

Church news

Church in Wales. The Rev T. A. Jones, the Vicar of St David's, St David's, in the Diocese of St Asaph.

Fossil first for reptile in Australia

A zoologist from Queensland University has discovered the fossil remains of a large mammal-like reptile which inhabited Australia more than 230 million years ago. Mr Richard Thulborn made the discovery in south-east Queensland. The fossil is the first of its type to be found in Australia and considerably extends the country's fossil record.

Science report Venus mountain ranges

A radar scan of Venus has revealed parallel ranges of mountains caused by constant upheavals similar to those that created mountain ranges on Earth. One of those features on Venus, known as Maxwell Montes, rises more than 36,000ft in less than 40 miles. A radar map of the terrain in the present issue of Science charts successive ranges on several of the highlands. But none of the others is as high as Maxwell Montes.

Service dinner

Suffolk Army Cadet Force. The Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk, Sir Joshua Rowley, Bt, presided at a guest night given by the Commandant, Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. Bowden, and officers of the Suffolk Army Cadet Force at their annual camp at Crowborough yesterday.

Roman Cotswold shrine unearthed

A round temple or shrine, containing about 300 Roman coins, has been discovered by archaeologists at Claydon Pike in the Cotswolds. It is believed to date from the third or fourth century AD. Stone foundations form a circle seven yards across.

Hot air celebration

A group of 46 manned balloons rose out of the mist shrouding Longlat, Wiltshire, yesterday. They were taking part to a three-day celebration of the bicentenary of the Montgolfier brothers' first ascent from Lyons. The French brothers' primitive craft was a paper sack powered by heat from burning straw.

Dairy farmers' efficiency questioned by survey

British dairy farmers' claim to be the most efficient in Europe is contradicted in a survey by the Milk Marketing Board. It shows that, although the average herd size in England and Wales is by far the largest at almost 53 cows, annual milk yield at 4,908 litres a cow is less than Holland's 5,105 litres.

University news

NEW HALL College lecturer in physics and astronomy in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of York, Dr J. H. E. Cartwright, has been appointed to the chair of pure mathematics in the Department of Mathematics, University of York, from October 1. Professor J. P. McInerney, BSc (Agric) (Lond), PhD (lowa), professor of agricultural economics and management, Reading University, has been appointed director of the agricultural economics unit and to the recently created Glazey Chair of Agricultural Policy from October 1.

CORRECTION

M. E. Hobday, of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, attended North Leamington School, Warwickshire, not Leamington College, as stated in our report on August 5 of the Sovereign's Parade at Sandhurst.

Services tomorrow: Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, 11.30 AM. Rev. J. H. E. Cartwright, Rector. ST MARTIN'S CATHEDRAL, 11.30 AM. Rev. J. H. E. Cartwright, Rector. ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL, 11.30 AM. Rev. J. H. E. Cartwright, Rector.

OBITUARY

MR ALEKSANDAR RANKOVIC Vice-President and Police Chief under Tito

Mr Aleksandar Rankovic, who was Vice-President of Yugoslavia from 1963 to 1966 and was for many years head of the secret police, died yesterday at his summer home in Dubrovnik. He was 73. Rankovic was one of Tito's closest associates during and after the Second World War, and was at one time mentioned as a possible successor. But he was dramatically stripped of all his functions and expelled from the League of Communists at a meeting of the Central Committee on the island of Brioni, Tito's summer residence, in 1966.

MR SEBASTIAN EARL

Mr Sebastian Earl, who died on August 13, was a distinguished oarsman and rowing correspondent of The Times between the two world wars. He also had a successful career in commerce, being appointed managing director of Peter Jones and later of Selfridges. "Seb" Earl was born on January 2, 1900, at Tonbridge, and was educated at Eton and Magdalen College, Oxford. Rowing was curtailed at Eton during the First World War, but he moved to Oxford Earl at once made his mark on the river. He rowed Head of the River for Magdalen in 1919 and 1920, won the university four in the same years, and the university sculls in 1920, 1921 and 1922. In 1920 he rowed in the Magdalen College eight and four, which won both the Grand Challenge Cup and the Stewards' Cup at Henley.

MR JOHN CHALMERS

Mr John Chalmers, a former chairman of the Labour party and a leading figure in the shipbuilding industry died at his home on Tyneside on August 19 at the age of 68. A tough but shrewd negotiator he became general secretary of the British Shipbuilders' Association and served as a part-time member of the British Shipbuilders Board. He led the shipyard unions through the early years of nationalization in the late 1970s and played a major part in building up a unified wage structure in the industry.

DR BERTRAM HOBBY

Dr Bertram Maurice Hobby who died on July 19, was Lecturer in Entomology at Oxford University and a fellow of Wolfson College. Hobby was a member of the Oxford University exhibition to Sarawak in 1932, when he collected many species that were new to science. In 1937 he joined the editorial staff of the Entomologist's Monthly Magazine, and in 1964 took full charge. He was known for the care with which he edited manuscripts, and his constructive criticism.

Sir Charles Emswold, KCMG, who died in his home at Ickham near Canterbury on August 17 at the age of 85, was Ambassador to Chile from 1955 to 1958, and had previously been Minister (Commercial) at the British Embassy in Washington from 1950 to 1955.

Lady Pile, who died on August 19, was the wife of Colonel Sir Frederick Pile, Bt, whom she married in 1940.

Abbeys service

A service of thanksgiving is to be held in Westminster Abbey on September 19 to mark the independence of St Kitts and Nevis, the Caribbean island which were among the first to be colonized in the West Indies in the seventeenth century.

Latest wills

Mr Desmond Arthur Reid, of Belgrave, London, Lloyds underwriter, left estate valued at £1,376,973 net. Lady Townsend, of Crowborough, East Sussex, left £235,114 net. Other estates include (net, before tax paid): Captain, Lt. of Liverpool, intestate £249,810.

"Kids today eat a load of junk?" Some don't even know if they'll eat tomorrow. And with your help, we're doing something about it. In Lesotho, Southern Africa, a vast feeding programme has transformed life for hundreds of thousands of children. Nine out of ten are now provided with a free meal at school every day. But to carry on the work we still need your help. And we need it now. Please send a donation direct using the coupon below (s.a.e. please, if you need a receipt), or through National Giro No. 5173000 or ansaphone 01-701 0894, quoting your Access/Bardycard account details.

مكتبات الأمل

THE ARTS

Concerts

BBCSO/Howarth
Albert Hall/Radio 3

The first half of Thursday's Prom, long though it was, showed mastery design in projecting us in stages out of the suffocation of a heatwave Albert Hall. First there was a jaunty down the road to Hammarstrand, for Holst's eponymous prelude and scherzo in its original scoring for military band.

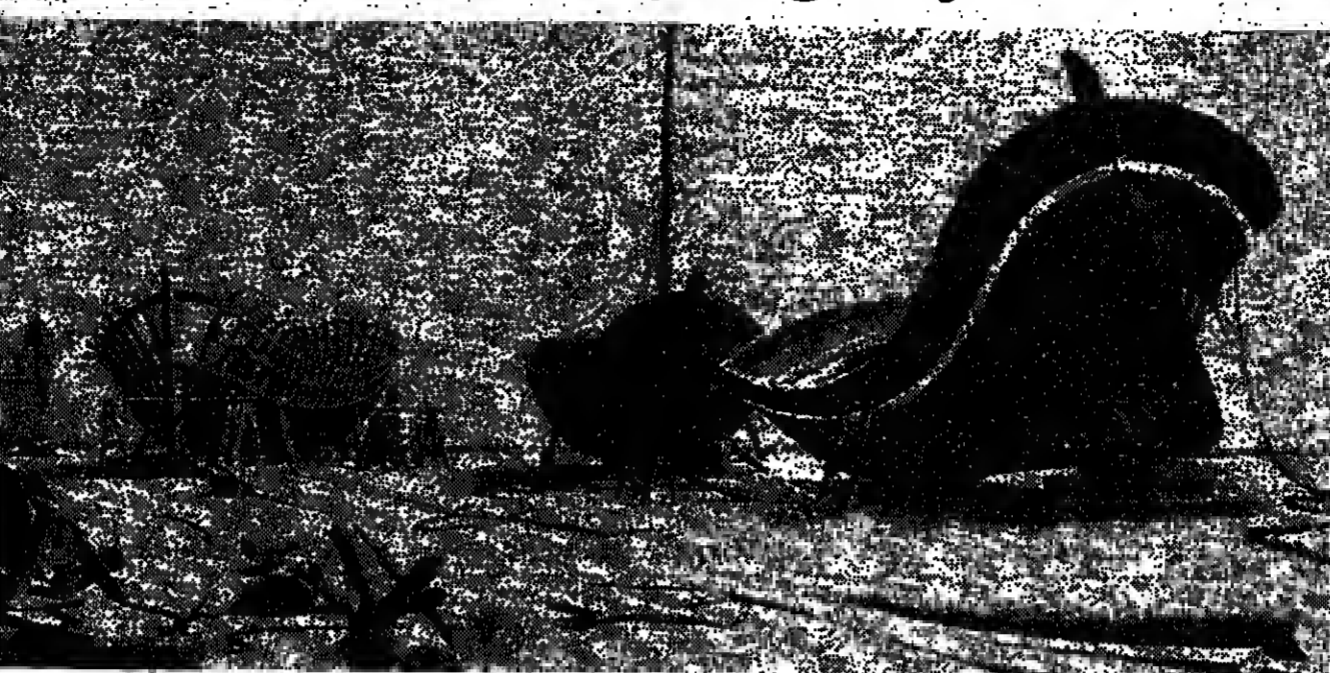
initial stimulus. In the play, according to Lumsdaine, an angel dances for two fishermen and reveals to them anew the beauty of the natural world. What happens in the composition is that the orchestra is made to dance, and to reveal, for itself and for its audience, its own beauty in a thousand new colours and shapes. There are sheets of string and wind tones dappled with pitched percussion as a Klimt is dappled with gold. There are tangled, tendrilled growths in the large woodwind ensemble, distant summonses from muted trumpets, glittering cascades from a body of seven metallophones and xylophones.

CBSO/Rattle
Festival Hall

Simon Rattle set out on Thursday to bring his orchestra's Sibelius cycle to London and South Bank Summer Music; and he set out right at the stark, dark heart of the of the composer with the Fourth Symphony.

These, mounting in orchestral size, duration and every other dimension, the concert moved from an idealized Norfolk to an idealized everywhere in David Lumsdaine's *Hagoromo*. This was commissioned by the BBC and first played by its symphony orchestra in Paris six years ago, but somehow it had never happened in Britain before, which has been very quite some years, indeed, out for performance of Peter Maxwell Davies's *A Mirror of Whiteness Light*, have I heard a new orchestral piece so stunning and so rich in new experience.

Galleries
Oh for something slightly different



Beaches and the objects normally found on them - "Shipbuilding at Peniche" (1948 - section)

A Timeless Journey:
Tristram Hillier, RA
Royal Academy

Most cinema films are diminished by being seen on television, but a few are, surprisingly, improved. In much the same way, most paintings lose in reproduction, but there are a few which are actually flattered by the process.

development, a faint hint that he might, had he wished, have become Ceri Richards instead. But by the early 1930s he had settled on the hard finish, the crystalline clarity of light which bathes his landscapes and still-lives, and over several attempts to modify his technique subsequently. His subject matter did change slightly. At first he went to for obviously bizarre juxtapositions of objects which made his surrealist affiliations evident, but later the surrealist side of the content was subordinated or at least made to seem accidental.

Paul Griffiths

This performance so much of its draining intensity. To single out any section of an orchestra in its fine form as the CBSO may seem perverse; but it was a rare pleasure to hear the score speak through them rather than vice versa.

Hilary Finch

Clive of India (tonight, Channel 4, 7.30), Kenneth Griffith's remorselessly personal view of the imperialist (a word Mr Griffith can hardly utter without a twist of the embedded knife), is everything considered, a surprisingly favourable summary. In fact, once that nasty bit of double-dealing involving Clive and the Bengali trader Omichund is got out of the way, the acid is poured

Television

Conic Roots (BBC 1) was a sunny, summery little programme about a sunny and quintessentially summery little chap, Billy Dainty (and bow pleasant to meet him) seems recognizable everywhere by an incredulous smile under mobile black brows, a voice with a Frankie Howard rasp, and irredeemably comic legs. With a fine bouquet of ancient snaps and the bare minimum of mawkish revisiting ("This was me mother's shop") he led us generally up the long road from being the only boy in a troupe of Dancing Babies to being

landed the part of Asbestos the Dancing Donkey's back legs in *Mother Goose*. The high-lights of the programme all concerned the reuniting of legs. First we went back to Billy's old tap-dancing teacher in Birmingham to watch him boof it once more with a brand-new row of Lohitas. Then Asbestos was reassembled with his original components and found to be in perfect working order. Unlike most stage donkeys, this one was wired for sound: the interior commentary as the lower limbs convorved and occasionally collapsed shed

WEEKEND CHOICE

Clive of India (tonight, Channel 4, 7.30), Kenneth Griffith's remorselessly personal view of the imperialist (a word Mr Griffith can hardly utter without a twist of the embedded knife), is everything considered, a surprisingly favourable summary. In fact, once that nasty bit of double-dealing involving Clive and the Bengali trader Omichund is got out of the way, the acid is poured

Griffith's passion almost exclusively on the East India Company, the undoubted villains of the piece. There is, as in all Mr Griffith's films, a mighty cast of one - Mr Griffith himself. So it comes as no surprise that we are 20 minutes or so into the film before Clive is seen, in effigy. History lessons do not come more dynamically than from this passionate and idiosyncratic Welshman. Clive of India, vigorously directed by Michel Pearce with many a telling visual image, is more self-indulgent than Mr Griffith's previous film about Thomas Paine, but there is the same stimulating feeling of total immersion in the subject matter.

Theatre

City Whispers
Man in the Moon

Down the other end of the King's Road from the Royal Court, where it forms one of the most successful parts of the Young People's Theatre Scheme, the Activists Youth Theatre is playing this amusing little collage of city scenes seen through young eyes. Scripted by the company itself from improvisation and interviews, it is brief and unpretentious, but also pointedly written, authentic and most enjoyable.

Radio

Capital chance

Sometimes, as I stare in bewilderment at the cheese counter in my local supermarket, it occurs to me that the impression of immense and significant variety is quite illusory. The stuff is all cheese; the differences are marginal. I feel a bit like that when peering at the competing submissions for the next London and General Entertainment Radio Franchise put up by the sitting tenant, Capital, and its only rival, Metropolitan Radio Ltd. Whatever we end up with will not sound shatteringly different from we are hearing now.

John Russell Taylor

The shift in emphasis proposed by Metropolitan is to correct what it sees as imbalances in Capital's output by which it has attracted the young, mainly male listener, but has lost the over-35s and the girls. In so far as I can make any comment on this matter, it is to say the Metropolitan's assessment is confirmed by the behaviour of my aging children who, with their friends, were once avid Capitalists, but now at 27 and 26 respectively regard the station's music and chat output as intolerable ("boring, repetitive, condescending") for more than an hour a day. My guess is, that Metropolitan, at least in its first excess of enthusiasm, would deliver something a bit more varied, a bit more like mixed programming than Capital, although its assertion that it will be "offering, perhaps for the first time, a genuinely attractive alternative to all, or any of, the various BBC services" is going to take some selling. Particularly in the light of its restrained commitment to radio drama and documentary.

Opera

Rigoletto
Coliseum

New York weather outside, New York inside the Coliseum, with a montage of sleazy late-middle-aged rivalries, faded romance from *West Side Story* and dingy plotted murder from *The Postman Always Rings Twice*, B-movie stories and twisted characters, all sewn together by the ingenious surgical skill of Jonathan Miller, and - unaccountably - all set to music by Giuseppe Verdi a century ago.

most point - betrayal and double-crossing is after all the everyday expectation in this set-up - but I had not realized from previous reports quite how tellingly designed the show is by Patrick Robertson and Rosemary Veree and how well lit in this revival by Roger Frith.

Advertisement for the GLC Presents DON GIOVANNI at the Royal Festival Hall. Directed by Joseph Losey, starring Ruggero Raimondi and Kiri Te Kanawa. Tickets £2.50. Box office: 01-928 3191.

Advertisement for the Greater London Council PIP POCKET THEATRE at the Queen Elizabeth Hall. Shows include 'Man in the Moon' and 'City Whispers'. Tickets £2.50. Box office: 01-928 3191.

KOO STARK SNAPS BACK

Advertisement for Koo Stark's camera. Text: 'One of the world's most photographed women has a new hobby. She's taking pictures of the press photographers who hound her night and day. And they don't like it because they feel that it's an invasion of their privacy. You can see a selection of Koo Stark's pictures exclusively in this week's Sunday Times Magazine. You can also read, in her own words, how she has to plan her evenings like military operations. Sooner or later something was bound to snap. It turned out to be Koo Stark's camera. PICTURES BY KOO STARK - A SUNDAY TIMES WORLD EXCLUSIVE.'

MARKET REPORT

Powell Duffryn hits peak

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin, Aug 15. Dealings end, Sept 2. Contango Day, Sept 5. Settlement Day, Sept 12.

The shares of Powell Duffryn hit a new peak yesterday of 268p as speculative money moved from BET to the company as the next potential bid target. Oil group Ultramar was widely thought to be a buyer and reports of strategic share stakes being built up abounded.

Mr David Hubbard, Powell Duffryn finance director, said the whole thing had grown out of all proportion. First, no large share stakes had appeared in the register apart from the Kuwaiti 8 per cent stake.

Secondly, Ultramar knew nothing to do with the company. "You can say that we are mildly irritated by the whole affair. If anything, we are on the takeover trail".

He added: "Now that consolidation is complete, we will come off our profits plateau and

we expect to move onward and upwards. We have not received any approaches in any form".

The Kuwaiti Investment Office comes up again with the announcement that it has increased its stake to 13 per cent in insurance brokers Hoeg Robinson. That kept Hoeg shares steady at the former level of 108p.

Games-maker John Waddington shares fell 2p to 229p as doubts arose over the success of BPC's takeover attempt. The offer closes on Tuesday when the exact position will become clearer.

BPC chairman, Mr Robert Maxwell, said acceptance had been coming in satisfactorily and he claimed the market had got it wrong. Institutional shareholders with an interest of 46 per cent have allegedly claimed they do not intend accepting the bid.

Elsewhere, nervousness over the next set of United States money supply figures - expected to be poor - caused buyers to hold off before the weekend. The FT 30 share index fell from yesterday's peak by 3.2 points to 735.7.

Stylo, formerly Stylo shoes, remained a whisker below its 130p peak for the year ahead of next month's special shareholders' meeting to decide if the company, controlled by the Ziff family, can buy back its own shares. The market says the shares are really worth 84p, but so far Stylo is saying nothing.

Once again American favourites ICI, down 5p to 536p, and Glaxo, down 18p to 860p, were the first to suffer. Other leaders registered losses of between 2p to 6p.

London Brick became the centre of takeover speculation yesterday as the idea arose that Tarmac may bid for the company. London shares firmed 3p to 84p. The idea is that once Tarmac has floated off its oil subsidiary, the money will be used to acquire London Brick.

Tarmac directors were not available yesterday for comment but they said earlier in the week that the oil float-off was on the cards. London Brick reports figures next Wednesday when its intentions towards Istock Johnson - its bid was cleared last Wednesday - is expected to be announced.

Some poor company results caused an 18p loss to 280p for Wholesale Fittings while the rights issue announcement knocked 4p off Keckware at 25p. Waring & Gillow lost 7p to 95p on disappointing figures

while the poor performance from Cerah Thursday clipped another 3p off the shares to 60p. On a brighter note recent USM issues Scusa gained 7p to 114p on news of two further United States acquisitions.

Hopes that Burton Group may yet acquire the John Collier and Richard Shopt chains from Hanson Trust added 3p to Burton shares 336p.

The appointment of a new chairman and optimistic forecasts from the annual meeting added 3p to Distillers 228p. Grindlays was a downward feature, falling 13p to 149p as the realization sank in that the bank is now virtually bid proof. Associated Dairies fell 4p to 168p ahead of next month's profit figures while on the bid target for Charter Consolidated.

Wayne Lintott

THE TIMES 1000 1982/1983 The World's Top Companies. The top 1000 US companies with an alphabetical index. The 1000 leading foreign companies with an alphabetical index. Available from Hutchinson or direct at 67p.50 including postage.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists various companies like Murrey West, Do 'n', New Britain, etc.

SHIPPING

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists shipping companies like Avon, British Ports, etc.

MINES

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists mining companies like Anglo Am Coal, etc.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists financial trusts like Alroy & Son, etc.

INSURANCE

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists insurance companies like Anglo, etc.

PROPERTY

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists property companies like Allied, etc.

RUBBER

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists rubber companies like Barlow, etc.

TEA

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists tea companies like Camellia, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists miscellaneous companies like Fox, etc.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists unlisted securities like Air Cal, etc.

As of 4.45 p.m. All shares in parentheses are unlisted. All shares in brackets are unlisted. All shares in italics are unlisted. All shares in bold are unlisted.

Table with columns: RECENT ISSUES, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists recent issues like Accounts Group, etc.

BRITISH FUNDS

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists British funds like SPBTS, etc.

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists commonwealth and foreign stocks like Anglo, etc.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists local authorities like LCC, etc.

DOLLAR STOCKS

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists dollar stocks like Amgen, etc.

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists banks and discounts like Bank of America, etc.

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists breweries and distilleries like Carlsberg, etc.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, P/E. Lists commercial and industrial companies like ICI, etc.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD

Table with columns: Market rates, Forward rates, etc. Lists sterling spot and forward rates.

MONEY MARKET RATES

Table with columns: Clearing Bank Rate, Treasury Bills, etc. Lists money market rates.

OTHER MARKETS

Table with columns: Australia, Bahrain, etc. Lists other markets.

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DOLLAR SPOT RATES

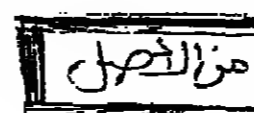
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23 Travel: How to have a journey of a lifetime in Australia; Eating Out; your chance to win a Ford Sierra XR4i car

4 Values: The best of what to buy in Hampstead and Highgate; herbaceous borders in The Garden and Drink on mineral water

THE TIMES Saturday

5 Review: Video cassettes - a touch of comedy and how to amuse the children; Preview of Theatre and Galleries; Collecting

7,8 Critics' choice of Films, Dance and Music; Bridge; Chess; guide to the Edinburgh Festival and The Week Ahead

20-26 AUGUST 1983 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Commoners who are Lords-in-waiting

From bankers to blacksmiths, carpenters to commuters, village cricket is the great leveller.

John Parker visits Troon for the semi-final of a national contest with the prize a ticket to Lord's

Troon. Sixteen hundred souls housed in rows of little granite cottages built a century and more ago for the tin miners of Cornwall. Now there is 19 per cent unemployment typified by the derelict pitheads dotting the treeless landscape; but they have been inactive since the depression of the 1920s and kept so by the politicians and the microchip revolution. A church, a pub. And a cricket club.

Langleybury. A hamlet set in the lush Hertfordshire countryside just 23 miles from Charing Cross, Commerterland. Two hundred people live here, collected around a crossroads, a church, a pub. And a cricket club. I don't suppose either village would have known where to find the other on an Ordnance Survey map until a couple of weeks ago. But last Sunday Langleybury gathered its cricket bags and supporters and decamped by air, coach, train and car some 340 miles to Cornwall for the semi-final round of the Whitbread National Village Cricket championships. Far away the Yorkshire village of Sessay was preparing in like manner to do battle with the invaders from Quarndon in Derbyshire.

The prize: the cricketer's dream, a place in the final at Lord's on Sunday, August 28. Troon have made the trek there three times since the competition began 11 years ago, and have come away winners each time. Langleybury have been close - losing semi-finalists three times already and now giving it a fourth go.

The two teams have never met, but Troon, for all their experience, are worried. They don't think the omens are good. They have had an easy run through the seven matches of the competition so far, but they don't think they are quite the force they used to be.

Never mind, it's only a game, isn't it? As Gerald Pemberton, the Troon chairman, says to Dick White, the club treasurer. But his dark eyes tell you he



doesn't mean it, and that to Troon - and to thousands of other villages across the country - the game is a religion. On the way up to the trim field from the impressive clubhouse he tells the story: how the club was founded in 1875, its early successes drawing enthusiastic support from the villagers; how all the team, except one, came back from the 1914-18 trenches; how the club became socially and psychologically vital to the village through the slump of the 1920s and the 1930s, rescuing people on their Saturday afternoons from the misery of everyday life on the dole, and how it is performing the same service nowadays. "How much would you say this clubhouse is worth?" he asks, pointing to the long, low building with its two bars, lounge and snooker room; comfortably, almost luxuriously, furnished. "Thirty, forty thousand?" his eyes flash again. "It cost us under 25,000. We did all the work ourselves. A local farmer gave us the land on condition we built within five years and included a proper snooker room. The old village room was falling to bits. We raised the cash and did it all well within the time. Then we used the profits from the bar to build the new pavilion; and the last thing we did was to put up the new scoreboard."

The scoreboard is indeed imposing, one which many a county ground would be proud of, and it is an object of interest to the Langleybury supporters already ringing the playing area with their cars and parking on the soft, brown grass. "Very professional," says a lady disapprovingly. "Professional" is the taboo word, and the Langleybury advance guard has already found out that two of Troon's leading players are



Scenes from the semi: Spectators, tea-makers and gladiators at the National Village Cricket championship semi-finals at Troon, Cornwall, and Sessay, Yorkshire

Weeding out the village greens

The National Village Cricket championship has been organized by The Cricketer magazine since 1972. The first sponsor was Haig Whisky, who promised a three-year run and stayed for six. Then Haig moved up-market to the club championship and Whitbread took over the sponsorship with equivalent success. It has run it ever since.

This year 570 village clubs paid the £10.50 entrance fee and the long trek to Lord's began late in April. The championship is organized by Findlay Rae, a retired civil servant whose love of cricket is exceeded only by his patience and ingenuity in bending his own rules to meet unexpected situations.

Rain is his biggest bugbear. This year's wet May and June caused hundreds of matches to be delayed or settled by various ingenious means. Officially the way to solve an abandoned game is for each man in the team to

bow one ball at three stumps, the most hits winning the game. But Findlay Rae turns a blind eye to the teams who settle matters over darts or even skittles, in the pub. His favourite story is of the letter he received from a club secretary, responding to a complaint that one of his team was not eligible for the competition as he had not turned out the requisite number of times for the club.

"I can inform you," ran the reply, "that the player concerned has turned out for this club since the age of 16. From 11 to 16 he was the club's official scorer, and from six to 11 he put the numbers up on the scoreboard. Furthermore, writing as his parent and not as club secretary, I can assure you he was conceived in the pavilion."

This year's competition has produced its own crop of tales, among them that of the policeman fast bowler in a

Gloucestershire side who, waiting to catch a simple return hit, was knocked over by the opposing batsman. Naturally he appealed, and the batsman was given out.

"I suppose it's the first time a man's been given out for obstructing the police," he said reflectively. "Come to think of it, we could have had him for wilful damage after he went back and kicked a hole in the dressing room door."

This year's final is between Troon from Cornwall and Quarndon from Derbyshire, at Lord's tomorrow week. The match will begin at 2pm and will consist, like all the championship matches, of 40 overs a side. No bowler may exceed nine overs, and in the event of a tie the number of wickets lost is taken into account or, failing that, the scoring rate. Entrance to Lord's is free, and on past form between 7,000 and 10,000 spectators will turn up.

Palmer and Mike Hardy have the job of fighting back. "Mike's a probation officer. Perhaps he can sort this one out," says Riddick with an attempt at humour. But the mood in the Langleybury dressing room is as black as it had been in Troon's. The gloom deepens as, at 23, Palmer swings mightily at John and Johnny Warren, with all the time in the world catches the skier effortlessly. So much for young nerves.

Now it is a battle of attrition. The score creeps up as slowly as had Troon's. Terry Carter begins to switch his bowlers around, and Steve Pedlar gets a ball to lift and leave the edge of Walford's bat for a comfortable wicketkeeper's catch. Forty-four for four off 19 overs. Steve Kitchen is brought on from the village end with his slow off-spinners to tempt the batsmen into rashness. Forty-four for four off 20 overs. Drinks, and animated discussion all round the ground. It is anybody's match.

Terry Carter makes an athletic swooping stop and comes racing off the field. "Spit my pants", he grins, but he is a quick-change artist as well and he is back at the end of the over. Hardy, battling grimly, is on 21 and Martin Brown, fluently left-handed, has caught him up with three Gower-like fours. Langleybury are beginning to accelerate menacingly when Brian Carter whips a ball back from the boundary and with a one-handed, one-movement scoop James has the balls off to run out Hardy. Eighty-three for five becomes 83 for six off the next ball as Brown tries to drive Riddick over his head but only manages a slice into the safe hands of Terry Carter.

Now there is real tension round the field. A little girl

thirty-seventh over as the Langleybury fielding begins to come apart under the pressure of the speedy running of the Troon pair, and Warren, beginning to enjoy himself, weighs in with another agricultural four. Twelve off the thirty-eighth and another 12 off the thirty-ninth. Seven runs off the last over bring the total to 171 and Pedlar, run out off the last ball, comes in beaming to thunderous applause with 65 runs to his credit. "Boy" Warren is left with 32 not out and bruises from all the backslapping. Their stand is worth 86 runs in 11 overs.

Yes, spontaneously spread in the pavilion, could well be called Troon's secret weapon, particularly if you are fielding second. But Gordon Riddick - tall, moustachioed and confident - drives Howard James's first ball sweetly through the covers for four.

"That's class." The murmur goes round the ground as the clapping dies down. Five off the first over is well on target. Riddick meets everything with the full face of the bat and protects his more hesitant partner Keith Wood. Troon know they have got to work for a win. Paul Cook, lean and lanky but with a labourer's strength and a nice high action, bowls two maiden overs and the scoring rate slows. In the seventh over with 15 on the board, Riddick plays the ball to gully, sets off for a run, stops his partner in full flight and turns back, leaving Wood stranded. A classic case of "Yes, No. Sorry", the sort of thing Denis Compton used to indulge in. Fifteen for one.

Riddick, concentration shaken by his mistake, moves across his wicket to the very next ball and is bowled round his legs by Peter Johns. Two wickets in two balls. Another turning point? Now Simon

continued on page 3

Wine Club Effortless Wine advertisement. Includes text about wine quality, prices for various wine cases (e.g., £24.65 for Case M65, £28.99 for Case M192), and a form for ordering wine.



Australia confirms your worst fears and answers your wildest dreams. The beaches are there for the taking but the outback or the teeming Barrier Reef provide a real challenge for the discerning visitor



Teeming trams: Melbourne's Collins Street and the Victorian Arts Centre, due for completion in 1984

An ocean of space where the earth curves as at sea



Driving in Australia is a cinch except to central Sydney, which contains a section based, apparently, on goat tracks. Extricating my splendid white Falcon from the gridlocked centre of Melbourne was child's play. I had worked it all out the night before. First right on to Elizabeth Street. Watch out for trams. Fourth left into Victoria Street. Third right into Peel Street. Bear left onto the Flemington Road, follow the signs to Ballarat. Hereabouts the main highways divided and I took the wrong one, sweeping me on to Bendigo.

THE OPEN ROAD

opened the road. I was in no hurry. I took five days over the drive. I have enjoyed lots of things as much as, but never anything more than these days of moving on through this ocean of land, which is so vast, that the curvature of the earth is as evident as it is at sea. Out of the towns, the houses are represented by names on a map. The house itself lies miles deep in a fold of the land. The map prints the names of some of these farms as though they were townships, which must be why I drove through Tittybong and Townsville without noticing them. Sometimes I stopped to relish the stillness and space, and the rather pleasant feeling (if it doesn't last longer than you want) of being alone in it, without a soul in the world, knowing where I was at that particular moment. A wind - not a strong one, but somehow a huge one - a wind hundreds of miles wide, blew across the land and rattled the leaves of the gum trees. People, anonymous in cars, passed infrequently. I heard the car coming long before I saw it, a faint whine swelling to a roar and a frightful yelling tumult as it hurried past me. Good god, do we all sound like that?

History is in the place-names, some commemorating British founders, some derived from the native names, some from incidents: Koorong Swamp; Turn-Back-Jimmy Creek; Poisoned Waterhole Creek. At Ballarat's gold diggings and Swan Hill (once a big inland port), history has been preserved and reconstructed. I had a fascinating day in these places. But for me the continuity of history is more real in a town such as Forbes, where I pulled up on a baking, autumn Easter Saturday.

Forbes began as a farming settlement, but went mad for a few years when gold was discovered in 1861 in what is

now the King George V memorial park. The population rushed up to 40,000. Then mining the gold became too complicated and most of the population rushed away again, leaving behind some fine nineteenth-century colonial architecture in the style that these country towns are still quite rich in. The balconies run unbroken round the building, supported through ground and upper floors by slender iron columns that branch out at the top into delicate lacy ironwork. The Vandenberg Hotel was such a place. Here were the odd 200 of Forbes' population of 8,200, pouring Foster's and Toohy's lager beer down their throats and shouting conversation over the uproar of a thundering juke-box. The men were dressed informally in singlets or T-shirts, "straps" (shorts) or "strides" (longs). Thick boots or thong sandals. In my linen jacket and trousers, shirt, socks and shoes, I must have stood out, to use a vivid Australian simile, like a one-legged man at an arse-kicking competition.

I wished, as on earlier trips down under, that someone could invent and promote a better informal hot climate dress for men. The drab stubbles do not belong. They are the sort of thing holiday campers in the north of England used to wear in the thirties when the sun came out. A hard fact is that hairy legs and pale skins, once tanned, oiled bright

Of formal knee socks and much beer

colours to display them. Yet the formal hot weather dress of Australian and New Zealand men, consisting of shorts, white full-length socks, polished shoes, white shirt, tie and light jacket, is extremely attractive. I wore it myself sometimes, and could not repress a start of gratification when I saw myself reflected in a shop window. Before I left Forbes I took a walk through the park. There was more history here, as in all towns through all of Australia and New Zealand, in the names of the memorials of the young men who left them. Young men who went, no doubt, more as a high-spirited lark than as dedicated soldiers of the Empire, to fight in the Empire's wars and did not return.

In between the cities, Australians measure distances in hours, not miles. Traffic is sparse. "Narrandera 100km", said a sign outside Jerilderie, and exactly one hour later, the Falcon was rolling across the bridge over the wide Murrumbidgee river and along the wide, sunstruck main street of Narrandera, pop. 5,000.

It was Good Friday. Barney, the host of the Fig Tree Motel, took me to the bowling club, explaining that it was one of the two places in town where you could get a drink without having to eat a meal. At 5.30pm, the portrait of the Queen looked down on a thriving and exuberant scene. Perhaps because there were lots

of women present, the men's dress was noticeably more formal. Somebody told Barney something as we entered, at which he looked grave. "The wife's got some trouble at home, Peter. The refrigerator's flooding all over the kitchen." He considered the priorities. "Reckon we'll have to have a drink and then go."

Barney said that the new drink-drive laws, which introduced random breath tests and lowered the permitted limit to 50 milligrams per thousand (in Britain the limit is 80) had reduced these clubs to shadows of their former selves. They had evidently not affected the dinner trade in his restaurant. He had taken on a spare waiter, in whose conversation there was the essence of the Australia I love. "Do you want something to drink?" he asked, when he had taken my order. "Is there a wine you recommend?" "I'm a beer drinker myself. I wouldn't have a clue."

This last phrase, is used cheerfully by Australians and New Zealanders. They applied it to such of my questions as "What time does the bottle store open?", "Which one is the Southern Cross?", "Am I right for Marrangaroo?"

Next morning was Easter Sunday, the last day of my drive. Leaving Orange, the road began to climb between ranges of green hills, curved as gently as the Sussex Downs but four times bigger. Then the range coded. The road began to spiral downhill in wide, shallow curves, presenting at each turn a fresh aspect of thousands of square miles of tamed and fertile plain. The size of it was enough to halt my breath.

Back in London when I was planning this journey, I had looked forward to this section through the mountains as the romantic as well as geographical peak; but one cannot always be lucky. It began to rain just outside Lithgow, where the Great Western Highway follows the discoverers' track, and a smaller road promised less Easter traffic and more spectacular views.

I stopped at a cafe to ask a "bike" (Australian for motorcyclist), his leather outfit stiff with studs and CND badges, which route he recommended. He replied: "It doesn't matter, mate. They'll both be closed in by fog."

So I took the upper road through Richmond and Windsor, and it was as he said. All I saw of the Blue Mountains was dripping trees along the road side and beyond that, a wall of grey. This was I was told, typical of the region in autumn.

I joined the stream of cars, full of disappointed families, driving back to Sydney in the rain, through the suburbs that sound so English - Hornsby, Ealing, Chatswood. In the morning, Sydney was itself again. I drove into the city across the Harbour Bridge (with a tremendous inward glow) on one of those glorious blue days that make Sydney the most beautiful city in the world.

Peter Black



Bay of splendour: Sydney Harbour Bridge crowns a most beautiful city

Land of plenty with room at the top



In the Cricketers' Bar of the Windsor Hotel, Melbourne, I identified a source of the affection for Australia that I have felt for as many years as I can remember. It was the magic cast by the Australian Test sides of my boyhood, whose faces looked out of the rows of black and white group photographs on the walls. MacLaren, Armstrong, Macartney, Oldfield, Kippax, Grimmett, the boy-genius Bradman... I never saw any of them play, so my imagination was at liberty to construct heroes and a country that existed in the hero-worshipping boy's world.

Nor has the reality of three visits over 20 years chipped much off my affection for it. I love it for its triumph over its bad start. It gives me a lift to see what the country has achieved, in the past 150 years; and if I had looked for the dramatic impressions of the latest and the earliest I could not have picked better places than the Melbourne Regent and the Glenisla sheep station 200 miles west.

The Regent was formerly the Wentworth, which was pulled down and the new hotel built at a cost of \$Aus500m (about £180m), which makes it the most expensive building ever erected in Australia, exceeded in size only by the Sydney Opera House (and Ayers Rock). From the outside it resembled a gigantic hair-roller, and my room was on the forty-eighth floor of 50. I never expected to be on the forty-eighth floor of anything in Australia.

The Regent signifies Australia's place in the multi-national world of vast computerized hotels, airports, business conglomerates, credit cards, and in-house television. I was given a vivid little snapshot of this world on the way to breakfast. A notice outside a room said: "No Entry: Function in progress." And young men wearing serious suits and expensive watches and carrying little black briefcases, were already seated. It was only ten to seven, but life was already earnest. I thought complacently about my investments in Australia.

It could be said that the Regent began at Glenisla, the homestead of Eric and Evie Barber, where I arrived a couple of days later, and that Glenisla began at Melbourne, for it was from there in the mid-1850s

SHEEP AND SKYSCRAPERS

that the settlers set out, moving with their bullock wagons, families, oxen, sheep, cattle, and provisions, like Old Testament tribes. They managed three miles a day with luck. They faced danger at almost every turn from the doomed aborigines, and accepted what seems to us extraordinary hardships (fancy not having sunglasses!) with a hardihood we can only marvel at. Among them was Eric Barber's great-uncle Carter, whose son Sam built Glenisla in 1873.

It is by way of being a historic house, preserved and restored by the Barbers and the National Trust as an exceptional example of the kind of house a grazier would build once he felt securely settled. The architecture is as Australian as the trees. A wide verandah runs right round it, iron columns help to support the roof. They say that even in summer, when the temperature outside is over a hundred, it remains a cool and comfortable 74 degrees in these spacious, high-ceilinged rooms.

Merinos, mutton and chores by the acre

Climate dictates the difference between a sheep station in Australia and New Zealand. With their annual 20in rainfall my New Zealand friend the Symes ran 1,250 sheep on 3,000 acres. The Barbers' 12,000 had just supported their 4,000 sheep during the drought that struck Victoria last summer, though they had had to bring in fodder by truck. They had just celebrated the first rain for 11 months; a fine drenching of 1 1/2 in that had already given the earth the beginnings of fresh growth. So while the Symes' place was as green and neat as a corner of the Isle of Wight, the Barbers' colours were pale greens and the browns of the original forest.

I met my fellow-guests at dinner (roast sheep, vegetables, a splendid fruit pudding) before which Eric led us in a grace. "It is the custom of the house," the girl I had heard Eric refer to as Rita, turned out to be an Austrian male kitchen designer named Rite; the others were a cavernous-voiced American investment counsellor and his wife, and a rather sad dark girl

who, it was supposed, nursed an unhappy love affair.

After dinner we went into the sitting room where Eric showed us a collection of clay pipes found in the bottom of an old sheepwash, and played a couple of cylinders on a 1903 Edison Bell phonograph. "Tipperary" and "Beautiful Sunday". But this burst of inaction did not suit Eric. He took me out in his truck and tore along the road with a powerful torch plugged into the cigarette lighter to show me the night creatures, the kangaroos and foxes.

In the morning he drove me along a forest track to the fire look-out point on Mount Bepcha, from which you can see clearly how little of the forest has been cleared compared to the expanse that remains, though the cleared paddocks, as they call fields, are the size of golf courses. Today bulldozers pulling trees like teeth clear a patch in a few days. The Barbers' forebears took years, sawing each tree to stump level and lighting a fire round the stump.

The wildlife remains abundant. We put up several groups of kangaroo and emu. Eric chased them over the plain, roaring with laughter as though the sight was as fresh to him as to me. The kangaroos bounded surreally, like animals from a dream. The emus raced along with necks stretched and vestigial wings pressed to their sides, looking comically like old ladies running for the bus with a shopping bag under each elbow.

Still on Glenisla property, we drove into a paddock at the foot of the Grampians and left the truck to walk a while. At this spot the mountain face climbed sharply in high, jagged-topped cliffs. Over them an eagle spanned. Barber said, his wings rose in the updraught. Under the enormous bright sky the peace was profound. Except for the clearances the scene cannot have changed in thousands of years. No wonder it is a holy region for surviving local aborigines. They sometimes make trips from their urbanized lives to camp at the foot of these cliffs, perhaps remembering in their dreams the long centuries before the Europeans came, as depicted in the wall paintings in the nearby Cave of Ghosts, the Cave of Fishes and the Cave of Hands.

The Europeans too have their ghosts. In another part of the

Dreams: Australia's aborigines

forest, on the other side of a dried-out swamp, Eric showed me a lost road. The trees stood more thickly here, and in the earth I could see plainly the runs of wheelmarks, slightly sunken in the track.

Here was the road that the Cobb-coaches used to pound along on the journey between Melbourne and Adelaide. It was a strangely stirring sight. It needed very little work to conjure up the sounds of furious action, the cursing and whip-cracking, the swathing horses, the squeak and rattle of harness. Sitting on the verandah after breakfast, enjoying the little flocks of cockatoos and crimson rosellas, the grey and pink galah parrots and such familiar birds as magpies and sparrows, I felt I wouldn't have objected to staying on for a year or so - as a guest, that is. I couldn't manage the chores, for despite the benefits that electricity pours into the countryside the life is strenuous.

Eric was taking it easy - he had just finished chopping logs and was having the vegetable garden - but don't recollect that I ever saw him or Evie doing just nothing. And it would not be enough to be willing, you had to be able - to change a tyre, replace a washer, clean a sparking plug, administer first aid, and a hundred things beside. The aromatic wood that burned at night in the sitting room, and fed the modern woodburning stove that Eric kept going because she liked the smell, came free from the gum trees; but it had to be picked up, carted home, left to dry for a year, and chopped up.

Although they could not be seen from Glenisla, two homesteads of equal size, lay within a couple of miles, the properties broadening out from the buildings, like segments of cake. "If we had a crisis there'd be 20 to 30 people here in five minutes," said Eric. "Lonely? I'm only lonely in cities, where no one wants to talk to strangers."

The main Hamilton-Horsesham road runs past the front entrance, bringing certain anxiety at times, I thought. As if on cue a big, shabby Holden turned into the yard and a very dirty woman, followed by a large and grubby man, got out. Eric hurried to meet them. "I thought they'd be up," he said when he returned. "Ran out of petrol. I noticed them stop last night. Slept in the car by the road."

"Did it occur to you that they might be Bonnie and Clyde?" "Lord, no. Nothing like that ever happens here. Where would they get to? There are so few people round here the police would have them in the next town."

Perhaps the only snags are that one would have to eat too much sheep, and would inevitably grow hardened in one's dealings with them. Eric was clearly as good a fellow as ever walked, but it must be a long time since he had been able to consider sheep as sentient fellow creatures. He raised his eyebrows for wool and fattened the older ones for export. I wondered if it had ever bothered him that a good slice of his life was bought by these meek creatures who were shipped live to the Middle East for slaughter. It was one of those questions I wish I could have brought myself to ask.

P.B.



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TRAVEL/2

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

EATING OUT

High and dry on a jumbo

For those attracted by the specialist shops in Values (overleaf) or just visiting, we investigate pub lunches in Hampstead and Highgate.

It would be stretching it to describe a journey round the pubs of Hampstead and Highgate as "crawling" - given the picturesque quality of the neighbourhoods, it would be more of an elegant sway. Yet as far as catering is concerned, it seems that the old restaurant wares apply. The more attractive the setting, the less effort need be taken.

Certainly the pub lunches offered on my tour were largely dominated by jumbo sausages, cheese salads and, as the blackboards describe them, "assorted quiches". The visitor, drawn to these areas by their history and village charm may welcome the progress of the Campaign for Real Ale, but will probably leave endorsing a Campaign for Real Food.

An honourable exception to this criticism is The King of Bohemia, a well-kept, wood-paneled house at the foot of Hampstead High Street. Cold hooches here are augmented by a range of excellent home-made pies served with vegetables (chicken and ham £1.60, steak and kidney £1.65, with spicy rissoles or fish and chips £1.50) as alternatives. This is also one of the few pubs to offer puddings (apple pie and ice-cream 50p) and coffee.

The house beer is Wetherby's, and there is a pretty, ivy-clad patio at the rear for open-air eating. At the top of the High Street, in Flack Walk, is one of Hampstead's most famous pubs, The Flack. Guide books suggest that it is full of bearded intellectuals and poets, but the lunchtime

trade is mostly office workers, and any poets are probably the sort who sell their work in 10p booklets. The interior is striking - huge windows, high ceilings and painted pre-Raphaelite panels - but the food is unadventurous, transport café stuff (sausages, egg and chips 80p, cheese and onion pie 78p, ham, egg and chips £1.15), although the chips are terrific and the Rombouls coffee is a bonus. Watch out for the Pinteresque "pot-man" in BR jacket and badge.

Up above Heath Street, Hampstead is at its dinkiest, and it is no surprise to find the tastefully preserved Holly Bush, with its baroque interior of wood-paneled banquets and panelling, is the local hosiery. Equally predictable is the appropriately prickly service and the dullish food - ploughman/fisherman/gamekeeper's lunches (£1.20), hand pizzas and burgers and one rapidly vanishing daily special such as chilli con carne (£1.30) or sweet and sour chicken (£1.35). There is also the ubiquitous jumbo sausage.

Moving up over the Heath towards Highgate, it is impossible to miss Jack Straw's Castle, a sprawling modern edifice that looks more like a constabulary base than a pub. An upstairs canteen offers fixed-price, meat-based meals, while "Toby's Pantry" (a refrigerated display) on the ground floor offers the usual range of salads and a couple of hot daily dishes.

Highgate itself has at least one winning entry with its own Flack, a large but attractive "coaching inn" with a wide, table-lined forecourt and a tasteful, atmospheric maze of bars. There is also some imagination and effort in the kitchens, with samosas and home-made pizzas highlighting the cold display. Hot dishes on

my visit included a smashing braised-liver casserole with fresh vegetables (£2.50) and a strapping chunk of shepherd's pie (£1.75). The friendly and efficient staff even helped a tourist with his map-reading.

Not so impressive is The Prince of Wales, where a pleasant aspect on to Pond Square is let down by lunches limited to not roast beef sandwiches (£1.50), ploughman's (£1) and instant pizzas (90p) and burgers (80p). The Guinness, though, is immaculate, and there is an appealing strand of eccentricity among the clientele, testified to by the occasional classical pianist or ball-room dancing couple.

The adjacent Ve Olde Gate House has on such aberrations. Homely, neatly furnished and clean, it offers simple grills (mixed £2.75, lamb cutlet, £1.75) and quick-fried snacks (scampi and chips £2.25) with a touch of the neo-European (lasagne 90p, moussaka £1.50) all unobjectionable but featureless.

Of course our ridiculous licensing laws do not encourage the progress of catering in pubs, but one would have thought that the residents of Hampstead and Highgate, who always seem to be pretending that they live in France, would bring more pressure on their locals to enhance the ootion.

Stan Hey

The King of Bohemia, Hampstead High Street, London NW3
The Flack, 14 Flack Walk, London NW3
The Holly Bush, 22 Holly Mount, London NW3
Jack Straw's Castle, North End Way, London NW3
The Flack, 77 West Hill, London N6
Prince of Wales, 53 Highgate High Street, London N6
Ye Olde Gate House, North Road, London N6



Ploughman's lunch: Familiar scenes now showing at the Holly Bush, Heath Street

Village ticket to Lord's

continued from page 1

holds up play for an agonizing minute as she trots behind the bowler's arm. At 92 for six, with 10 overs left, Langleybury are marginally ahead of the Troop in striking rate, but they are beginning to run out of wickets.

Paul Trussell, 17-year-old schoolboy, is now playing a similar role to that of Johnny Warren. Pedlar gives him a fast full-toss, and the big lad whacks it out of the ground for the biggest six of the day. Now he swings again, and Paul Dook, down at long leg, fails to judge the swirling ball.

Groans and cheers mingle as

Cook hurls the ball in and goes down on his knees, shaven head in firsts. Fourteen runs off the thirty-first over, 10 more off the thirty-second. Carter switches his field around again, brings on the reliable Johns. Trussell thumps yet another four. Then he swings again, snicks, and James throws the ball high to jubilation. It is 122 for seven now and the sands are running out.

Sheun Palmer, moustache bristling, walks out to the chest "Come on the Bury" and smashes two fours. Now it is 132 for seven - 39 runs to win off six overs. Johns seeds Palmer's middle stump flying, and the inevitable Terry Carter, oob on the loop-on boundary, catches Doherty's desperate hook. The last man is run out in yet

another tangle and Troon are on their way to Lord's again. And so to the bar. After the brief speeches, the presentations, the award of the oob bat to man-of-the-match Scott Pedlar, the carpenter, the battle is fought all over again.

New friends part, and meety Langleybury folk will be at Lord's for the final to cheer on Troon when they meet Quardon. And Brian Carter leads the singong until closing time. He will be going to Loo-doo twice this year - once to Lord's and later to the Albert Hall with his foe, soor voice for a choir fival.

But cricket's only a game. Isn't it?

John Parker is the author of The Village Cricket Match (Widdowsons) and Test Team at Tanglyford (Widdowsons).

THE TIMES WIN-A-CAR COMPETITION

In the summer, readers of The Times, and millions of other Britons, take to the road to enjoy the glories of the English countryside. For those with a keen eye for detail who wish to make their future journeys more enjoyable, here's a chance to win a Ford Sierra XR4i

How to play

Our summer competition starts today and runs for the following two weeks. ● A small section of one of the Ordnance Survey 1:50000 Landranger map series of a piece in the United Kingdom mentioned in The Times in the past 10 days is reproduced here. ● All you have to do is identify the place which has been blacked out. Other names nearby have been masked in grey to make the contest more difficult. Fill in the blacked out name on the dotted line below the map.



How to enter

● Collect all three maps (today, August 27, September 3) and send them to the address given below as soon as possible after the competition ends. The first correct entry opened will win the first prize.

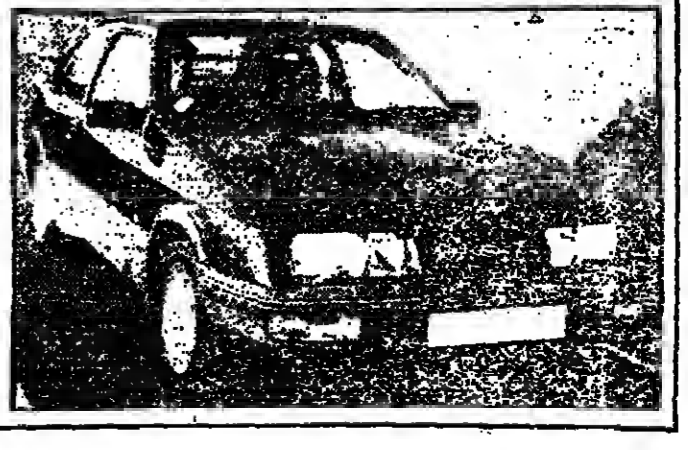
The prizes

● First prize is a Ford Sierra XR4i with a 2.8 litre V6 engine, a maximum speed of 130 mph and a price of £9,170. ● Twenty runners-up will

each receive a copy of the new Ordnance Survey Road Atlas of Great Britain (£7.95), the comprehensively indexed 1 inch to the mile atlas.

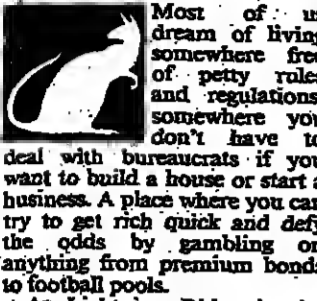
The rules

The competition is open to anyone (except employees of Times Newspapers Limited and the Ordnance Survey, and their immediate families). The closing date for entries is Monday, September 12. Competitors should enclose a current address and telephone number if possible. The Editor's decision in any dispute resulting from the competition will be final. The result and the solution will be given in The Times on Sunday, September 17. Entries should be sent to The Times Win-A-Car Competition, 12 Cotey Street, London WC99 9YT.



IN THE OUTBACK

Life on the opal trail



Most of us dream of living somewhere free of petty rules and regulations, somewhere you don't have to deal with bureaucrats if you want to build a house or start a business. A place where you can try to get rich quick and defy the odds by gambling on anything from premium bonds to football pools.

At Lightning Ridge in the Australian outback both these things can come true. About 400 miles from Sydney, the ridge is a community of drifters and dreamers who come in search of wealth, and to discover an escape route from many of the pressures of the twentieth century.

It is by no means an idyll, resembling a sun-parched, glaring moonscape more than a Garden of Eden. But it is the only place in the world where black opals have been discovered. The stones can be as valuable as gem-quality diamonds, but a great deal harder to find.

The technical difficulties in finding them and getting them out of the ground have meant that big international mining interests have never become involved. The field has remained open to independent prospectors who have been tramping Australia for the last 200 years.

Lightning Ridge is bad grazing land, where sheep only venture in times of extreme drought, so land owners are quite happy to encourage miners to explore beneath the earth. All they have to do is put down a \$400 (about £30) deposit, returnable when they leave the site safe and when they pay a \$400 (about £30) annual registration fee for the mining rights to an area 50 metres square. Each person is allowed two claims, and most serious miners



Grim and beer it: Some strike lucky, others live on hope and kangaroo stew

work one claim and build a house on the other. The township has grown to cater for miners and is largely populated by those few who have struck it rich and built themselves comfortable, if incongruous, suburban villas, and those who have given up the unequal struggle and settled for safer vocations, like running motels and shops, or making pottery from opal clay.

"Some meo here have become millionaires with 10 minutes work", Dave Martin, an old prospector, explains. He has been working Lightning Ridge himself for 15 years, but now spends more time showing visitors around and recalling the area's history between beers. "Others never find anything and live all their lives on hope and kangaroo stew."

Artist Paul Bird lives in a substantial house on a claim, supplementing his income by painting local scenes. "To make life more bearable for his wife and child, he has dug an underground room beneath the house, where the temperature remains comfortable while the air outside goes up over 120°F.

Life in the caravans and shacks around the holes is not comfortable. In town, water is

brought up from artesian wells. It is always hot and foul-smelling, but fit to drink and shower in. Out of town, prospectors survive with modest storage tanks and generators, building haphazard privies over cracks in the ground. When they are not underground or asleep, many of the men drink quantities of beer.

In the public bar there are rows of one-armed bandits cashing in on the local taste for gambling, while in the main hall, where "reasonable standards of dress" are required, most of the town turns out weekly for giant raffles in which nearly everyone wins something while sitting around trestle tables drinking and yarning.

On the surface the claims seem deserted and silent. There is no telling how many miners are beavering away beneath the surface, or how many are dozing in apparently abandoned cars and caravans. Most men work in partnerships, because if a miner has an accident underground it is possible his absence will not be noticed for weeks. A miner who strikes lucky also needs help guarding his hole against the "ratbags" or "ratties". They are

the men who do not respect the moral codes of frontier land, and nip down other men's holes in the night to steal their hard-wool prizes.

Good finds are shrouded in secrecy, allowing rumours to grow into local myths which no one can verify. Attempts have been made to set up an unbiased body of valuers to act between miners and the buyers, but the miners are wary of anything which might attract the attentions of bureaucrats and taxmen. Many prefer to do their selling from pocket to pocket in the bars. The dealers come out from the city and spend time in the motels, listening to the rumours and drinking in the bars. They often get bargains by offering cash to miners with hungry families.

At one time open-cast mining was allowed, but the damage to the environment was too great. Now contractors bore holes up to 200ft deep, and miners descend on rickety ladders to chip away with hand tools. Many of the prospectors from the cities are the other sources of income for the town. They come out to camp or stay in the motels, and hope to recover the cost of their holiday with one lucky find. Some of them even

ON THE REEF

New worlds down under



First there were the sharks - I must ignore the sharks. Forget all that Jawz rubbish and relax. Don't actually provoke them, mind you, just ignore them and they ignore you. That was the expert advice, but like most divers from cold water countries who first explore the Great Barrier Reef, I was told to appreciate them for what they are: streamlined predators of marvellous efficiency and instinct, a threat to fish but not to humans.

But, I nervously inquired, what about the case of the ship's cook eaten a few days earlier and the crewman wanted to death when a fishing boat overturned? The tragedy was the exception to the rule. It had probably happened because they had fallen into the sea with the catch, the sudden bonus from above that had sent the sharks into a feeding frenzy.

With that thought in mind, and only partly reassured by the experience of Ray Gomersall, our divemaster, who had only twice in 10 years been forced out of the water by a "big biter", I finally checked my air supply and harnesses, and called backwards over the edge of the boat into the warm Pacific. The Great Barrier Reef has not been plundered and destroyed by the crown of thorns starfish, a multi-tentacled coral-eater which attacks the reef in locust numbers and reduces it to dead, stripped rock. Areas have been attacked, but many of the divers I met thought the submarine "ecologists" had



Sight-seeing dip: The richest marine life anywhere

perhaps over-reacted to the threat. There was no sign of sick coral near our group. We did not have to dive deep - 40ft was ample to appreciate a majestic and colourful world. A leopard head turtle lumbered past en route from nowhere to nowhere, a stingray, sting erect, flapped into the deep in panic as we approached. The reef is probably the richest area for marine life in the world. The Caribbean numbers its species in the hundreds; Australia's amazing reef, the eighth wonder of the world, runs into thousands. When a diver has learnt to relax

and take in the fine details of his surroundings, it is the small things that are most fascinating: not the big biters, but the tiny fish and intricate coral growth. I glanced upwards to the right and stared straight at the belly of a white-tipped reef shark. A mild panic of bubbles showered from my air demand. The shark was silver and lean with a sinister dark eye - 10ft long, I thought, until I remembered that underwater everything becomes magnified. It was really no more than 3 or 4ft.

Australia is a magnificent place for an adventurous vacation. With a population not much bigger than that of Greater London spread around a land as wide as the Atlantic, it is largely open-air, adventurous ground. The Great Barrier Reef sums up the scale of things, stretching from the Gulf of Papua to Fraser Island, some 1,200 miles long and covering 80,000 square miles. It was first crossed by Captain Cook in the eighteenth century but remains largely unexplored, submarine territory. The most spectacular way to arrive is by air. A flock of small amphibious aircraft operate

from Shute Harbour on the coast near Proserpine. They carry reef watchers out to a lagooon 30 miles offshore. Passengers are ferried from the aircraft on to the coral where it is thinly covered by the sea and are left to prod around after a briefing on what they should avoid touching: stone fish, for example, that are amazingly camouflaged and have a near fatal sting, and certain antiseptic families of stinging hydroids.

You know when you stand on one, your hair stands on end, the guide cheerfully explained to a group of Japanese bankers that had rolled up its collective trousers and was paddling uncertainly among the coral. A short trip away by boat lay anchored the Reef Encounter, a diving support ship skippered by Mr Gomersall which acts as hotel and service station for the parties of scuba enthusiasts and snorkellers. From the vessel they explore Hook Reef which is surrounded by excellent dive sites including ours, the Canyons, an area of reef that has fractured into a maze of submarine cliffs, passageways and caves. There is also Shark Alley, a cut in the reef where the tide flows in and out in a submarine waterfall, and where tiger and black-tipped sharks commonly hunt.

Not everyone quite grasped what the reef was. One passenger with Air Whitsunday wanted to fly out to the reef with his bicycle. "What are you hoping to do?" the bewildered pilot demanded. "I'm going to land there and ride it up to Cairns", was the reply. Cairns is a town 300 miles to the north. He clearly imagined a smooth causeway running along the sea surface and holding back the full weight of the Pacific. In fact, it is a jigsaw of more than 3,000 individual reefs that form a ragged barrier protecting the Queensland coast. "It is a magical place. When the spring tide ebbs, the coral lifts the lagooon above the level of the sea, which is eerie. There's a lot of peace and quiet here; sunrise and sunset are spectacularly colourful", Mr Gomersall reflected on the bridge of his lonely ship. A similar kind of isolation can be found on Heron Island to the south, which is advertised as a drop in the ocean. The island, which measures one mile around its flawless beach shaded with tropical trees, juts

from the coral reef which extends in a 15-mile circle. Guests clatter the 50 miles or more from the coast by helicopter across the mosaic pattern of coral to land on the beach, a stride away from chalets that form the hotel. The Tropic of Capricorn passes directly through the bar, and a heroic struts tangle around the dining-room, living and kitchen. In a crowded and unlikely menu of chicken and turkey, the thick foliage shelters a wealth of birdlife: silver gulls, doves, landrails, oddies, black-naped and common terns, who arrive on Heron Island after a 12,000-mile migration. The diving is spectacular. At a spot on the seabed known as the Bonnie, we saw shoals of fish; coral trout, goldie trevally, red emperor, graceful angel fish, hump-headed Maori wrasse, and a lugubrious greasy cod weighing some 35lb and looking monstrous. In a crevice behind the massive heads of staghorn coral lurked a pair of moray eels known to divers who explore there regularly as Fang and Harry.

It is not absolutely necessary to travel so far offshore to savour the reef. Shute Harbour has its own spectacular reef a short distance offshore, and from there it is possible to charter sailing craft to explore the Whitsunday group of islands. Sailing requires particular care with so many coral heads lying just beneath the surface, and proven experience is required before taking a self-sail charter. Each yacht has VHF radio and charters are required to make a daily check call and to be centred at anchor before sundown.

Ronald Faux

All centres offering scuba diving insist that customers hold the British Sub Aqua Club third-class certificate or its equivalent, Reef Encounter and Heron Island centres arrange training courses leading to the award of the Australian C qualification. The Heron Island package costs about £200 (about £110) exclusive of accommodation. Reef Encounter offer as many dives in 24 hours as safety permits for \$400 plus \$60 a day accommodation. Heron Island diving centre, P&O Resorts, PO Box 72, Hamilton, Queensland 4077. Reef Encounter diving and details of air connections from Air Whitsunday, The Airfield, Shute Harbour, Proserpine, Queensland. Whitsunday Rent-A-Yacht, Shute Harbour, PMBS Proserpine, Queensland 4800.

power steering end air-conditioning. If you plan to drive long distances, the bigger the car the better. Campervans rent from around \$40 a day. Motel accommodation is from \$40 to \$50 per unit per day. Try to stay at least two months; the longer you stay the cheaper the weekly expenses become. The most expensive return flight, first-class, is £3,546. Cheapest official fares are the Apex off-peak returns from £254. The 14-270 day excursion fare costs £782 and permits one stopover. The Cantas/TWA £1,180 "World Beater" fare is valid for one year and allows unlimited stopovers. It is worth looking at the travel arrangements in the back pages of The Times for cut-price and special offers. The P&O Down Under Club's offer, from £582 return, is typical. Alex McWhirter's Fare Deal column in the Saturday section on Sept 10 will be on fares to the antipodes. Tour operators featuring packages to Australia include Exchange Travel, Trickers World, Balles, Jetset Tours, and Premier Holidays of Cambridge.

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FAMILY MONEY

School fees

Save the agony by saving with a flexible scheme

With only days left before the start of a new term, the annual agonizing over school fees and how to pay them begins.

A lot of mystery surrounds school-fee schemes but anyone seeking advice should remember that they all basically utilize existing insurance plans, the proceeds of which can be used for a number of purposes - not just the provision of school fees.

The parents' objective should be to build up a fund which can be used for several purposes. You may find that you change your mind about independent education, so it is important to make sure that any scheme has sufficient flexibility. The priority should be the maximum capital appreciation of savings. One scheme out generally used by school-fee planners is the tax-exempt Friendly Society policy, where your savings accumulate in a totally tax-free fund.

Each parent can save a maximum of £20 per month in this plan. The potential return after 10 years should be better than other forms of savings such as insurance-linked schemes which do not enjoy the same tax exemptions. That is, so long as the friendly society's investment team knows its business.

This type of scheme can be used to finance fees starting in 10 years' time. It is not profitable to draw on this plan for earlier school fees as the maximum return allowed within 10 years is the value of all premiums paid to date.

Ideally, a savings programme should be diversified between several institutions, to obtain the expertise of several investment teams. In the new economic climate where single-figure inflation is a welcome change from the double-digits of the previous decade, the effect of even this low inflation rate in future school fee costs still has to be taken into account.

One of the constraints in choosing a realistic school fee inflation rate, for a savings programme, is the effect it will have on the initial monthly cost of a plan. This may well discourage the parents from doing any planning at all.

A monthly outlay of about £50, which rises gradually over



the initial years of a savings programme, should cover current-day school fees from the ages of 11 to 18 years for a child, allowing for inflation at 7 per cent (compounded) from today.

You should start saving at whatever level you can afford and as early as possible, as it is easy to increase the level when you can afford more.

To ensure that fees can be provided earlier or later than the tenth year, the parents should consider a mixture of unit-linked 10-year policies and longer-term flexible policies both "with profits" and unit-linked. The longer-term policies should provide most of the necessary life-cover on both the father and the mother.

In addition, the savings contracts should offer the option to the parents of using

the proceeds for a house move or extra pension provision or help during the child's university years, if fees up to the age of 18 are not required. Parents' savings for their children's education may change over the years and a rigidly fixed scheme will not match their changing needs.

The saver is lucky to have such a wide choice of good insurance companies offering long-term plans. But this presents the parents with the problem of choosing between hundreds of competing plans on the market. To avoid having to shop around, they can use the knowledge of a specialist school-fee company, or investment adviser, who should summarize for them the most competitive plans available to suit their requirements. If in doubt consult several advisers

and compare their recommendations. In recent years people have become more aware of the tax benefits available if a grandparent, friend or relative covents money to a child to help with school fees. For every £100 covenanted, the donor can claim a basic-rate tax relief, reducing the cost to £70. As a non-taxpayer, the child is able to reclaim this tax deducted at source and so receives £70 from the donor, plus a £30 tax rebate. Parents cannot covenant to their children under the age of 18.

This additional income for the child can be used to help with school fees. A step-by-step guide is now available on setting it up correctly to ensure Inland Revenue approval.

Joe Collins

FAMILY MONEY MARKET

Banks Current accounts - no interest paid. Deposit accounts - 6% per cent. Barclays, Lloyds, Natwest 6 per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. Lloyds extra interest 9% per cent. Monthly income account Natwest 9% per cent. Fixed term deposits £2,500-£25,000 - 1, 3 and 6 months 8% per cent. Rates quoted by Barclays. Other banks may differ.

MONEY FUNDS Fund Name Rate Telephone. Monthly Income 0.00 01 888 6070. Bank of Scotland 0.25 01 828 8080. Britannia 0.25 01 588 2777. Halifax 0.25 01 420 8234. S & Prosper 0.25 07 068 9936. Schroder 0.25 01 588 4000. Simco 0.25 01 238 0233. Standard 0.25 01 238 0233. Telford & Telford 0.25 01 238 0232. Telford & Telford 0.25 01 238 0232. Telford & Telford 0.25 01 238 0232. Telford & Telford 0.25 01 238 0232.

National Savings Bank. Ordinary accounts - interest 3 per cent, first £70 of interest tax-free. Investment Account - 11 per cent interest paid without deduction of tax, one month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £200,000.

National Savings Certificates 26th Issue. Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate of 8.25 per cent, maximum investment £5,000.

National Savings Income Bond. Investment £2,000 - max. £200,000. Interest - 11 per cent increasing to 11% per cent from 4 Sept variable at six weeks notice - paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 or 6 months notice - check penalties.

National Savings 2nd Index-linked certificates. Maximum investment £10,000, excluding holdings of other issues. Return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail price index. Supplement of 0.2 per cent per month up to October 1983 paid to new investors; existing holders

receive a 2.4 per cent supplement between October 1982 and October 1983 a 4 per cent bonus if held full five years to maturity. Cash value of £100 Retirement Issue certificates purchased in August 1975, £173.73 including 4 per cent bonus. Guaranteed Income Bonds. Return paid net of basic rate tax, higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity schemes 2 & 3 years Canterbury Life 8.5 per cent min investment £1,000, 4 years General portfolio 9-11.5 per cent, min investment £1,000, 5 years Sentry 10 per cent, min investment £1,500.

Local authority yearling bonds 12-month fixed rate investments, interest 10% per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Local authority town hall bonds. Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). 1 year Kingston upon Hull 10% per cent. 2-4 years Hammersmith and Fulham 10% - 11% per cent. 5 years Kingston upon Hull 11% per cent. 6-9 years Telford 11% per cent. 10 years Worthing 11 per cent. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance Loans Bureau (01-630 7401, after 3 pm). See also on Prestel no 24808.

Building societies. Ordinary share accounts - 7.25 per cent. Term shares - 1 to 5 years, between 0.5 per cent and 1 per cent over the BSA recommended ordinary share rate depending on the term. Regular savings schemes - 1.25 per cent over BSA recommended ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax. Not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

Investors in industry. Fixed term, fixed rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid net of basic rate tax. Rates of tax 3-4 years, 11 per cent; 5 years, 11% per cent; 6-10

years, 11% per cent. Further information seven days notice is required for matron from St. 01 Waterloo Road, London SE1 (01-928 7822).

Finance house deposits (FHD). Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deductions of tax. Five-Fifty scheme: 6 months, 10% per cent; 1 year, 10 per cent; 2 years, 10% per cent.

Foreign currency deposits. Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Int. Reserves 0481 26741. July RPI: 336.5 (The new RPI figure is not announced until the third week of the following month.)

Trust fees at half-price

Mention trusts and the usual reaction from any beneficiary is that the administration charges are too high. Accountants Dearden Farrow have done some interesting research which reveals that their charges (and probably the charges of most other accountants) are less than half those charged by either the banks or the public trustee.

Table with columns: Trust Charges, Bank, Public trustee, Dearden Farrow. Rows: Small/medium Trust, Large/medium Trust, Large Trust.

1) All fees exclusive of VAT. 2) Dearden Farrow fees include partners' time and relate to cases dealt with in its London office.

Advertisement for HFS (Homeowners Friendly Society) with headline 'ARE YOUR SAVINGS EARNING YOU 13.39% EQUAL TO NET PA. 19.13% GROSS'. Includes details about savings plans and contact information.

Large table titled 'Unit Trust Prices - change on the week' containing multiple columns of financial data, including fund names, prices, and percentage changes.

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom center of the page.

REVIEW Video cassettes



Laughing around the clock: Richard Pryor, John Cleese, Billy Connolly, and television's favourite comedy duo, Cannon and Ball

Comics who stand up to live audience test

The art of performing comedy in front of a live audience has inevitably declined with the growth of television. The television comic has the much easier life. If he fluffs his lines, there can be a retake. If the studio audience (assuming there is one) is unresponsive, laughter can be added later. All is planned and scripted and little can go wrong.

punch-line, often the story tails away without a point. He is offensive without being malicious. There is initial shock at his crude vocabulary, layatorial preoccupations and insistence on bad taste. But these are the trappings, not the essence.

Richard Fryer, a black American, has much in common with Connolly, a white Scot, not least in the overwhelming response of his audience and the occasional

Many Python is essentially television comedy, which does not transfer well to the stage. Many of Python's most successful episodes are filmed out of doors, and the more intimate sketches, created for the close-up cosiness of the small screen, become lost in a huge auditorium in front of thousands of spectators.

Their act is highly professional, and they perform with assurance, timing and a mutual confidence that comes only to couples who have struggled together for a long time. But there is little that is subtle, either in content or performance.

Providing holiday animation

If the summer holidays are proving a drag, video could come to the rescue. There is certainly no shortage of tapes for children and the quality is often surprisingly high. What follows is merely a small selection of the more recent issues.

More animated features have been issued by Videomeia, a company which can claim to have pioneered children's video in Britain. Peter No-Tail is a Disney-ish fantasy about a kitten born without a tail and was made by the Swedish Film Institute. It runs 81 minutes and costs around £37.

and the oow classic *Mory Poppins*, which made a star of (and won an Oscar for) Julie Andrews. There are also adventure stories, like *The Incredible Journey and Night Crossing* and *Conan*, with one of the best of David Niven's later performances. None of these films, incidentally, has been screened on television, which strengthens the case for their video issue.

New releases

There is oow this month of a video company formed for the admirable purpose of releasing those specialist "art" films that win the critical plaudits and play for a couple of weeks but hardly surface again.

transvestite: *The Terror of Tiny Town*, a Western with an all-midget cast; and *Horror of Party Beach*.

is a film which had a very limited cinema release. *An Enemy of the People*, an unlikely combination of Ibsen and Steve McQueen.

Collecting

Kitchen treasure's local accent

"I don't imagine there'll be much to concern you in the kitchen," said the owner. "It's a dreadful hotchpotch of tat and technology - except for an old dresser, left to my husband by his Welsh grandmother. Probably not much good, but it had better appear in the inventory, just to satisfy him."

considered most desirable. That doesn't mean that a dresser has to boast all of them to be either genuine or worthwhile, but each adds quite a bit to its value.

"Quite often, yes, particularly if it's what is called 'rural', the indigenous product of a fairly well defined region. It's like language, or dialect. An expert can detect a local accent, just as you might spot it in speech."

"In practice, I think they used to contain bits of string and unpaid bills. Now we come to the base. One as good as this, these days, is highly prized as a serving table, even if the rack has gone missing."

"What's so marvellous about this one?" "A double bank of drawers, resting on well-turned legs that come down to a particularly good pot-board, constructed with three raised panels. And below that, feet with an unusual detail - an ogee curve to their fronts."

More than a touch of the controversial

Glenda Jackson can usually be relied upon to associate herself with something unexpected, be it the *Marat/Sade* production in the early 1960s which brought her to prominence or films such as Ken Russell's controversial view of Tchaikovsky. Returning this week to the West End stage, where she was last seen playing Hitler's mistress, Eva Braun, in Robert David MacDonald's *Summer Conference*, she appears to have made one of her more eccentric choices.

It is an episodic play about a woman's search for her own identity in the midst of an alien environment. The woman, Lotte, played by Glenda Jackson, struggles against a world lacking in morality and human spiritual values until she finds her own identity.

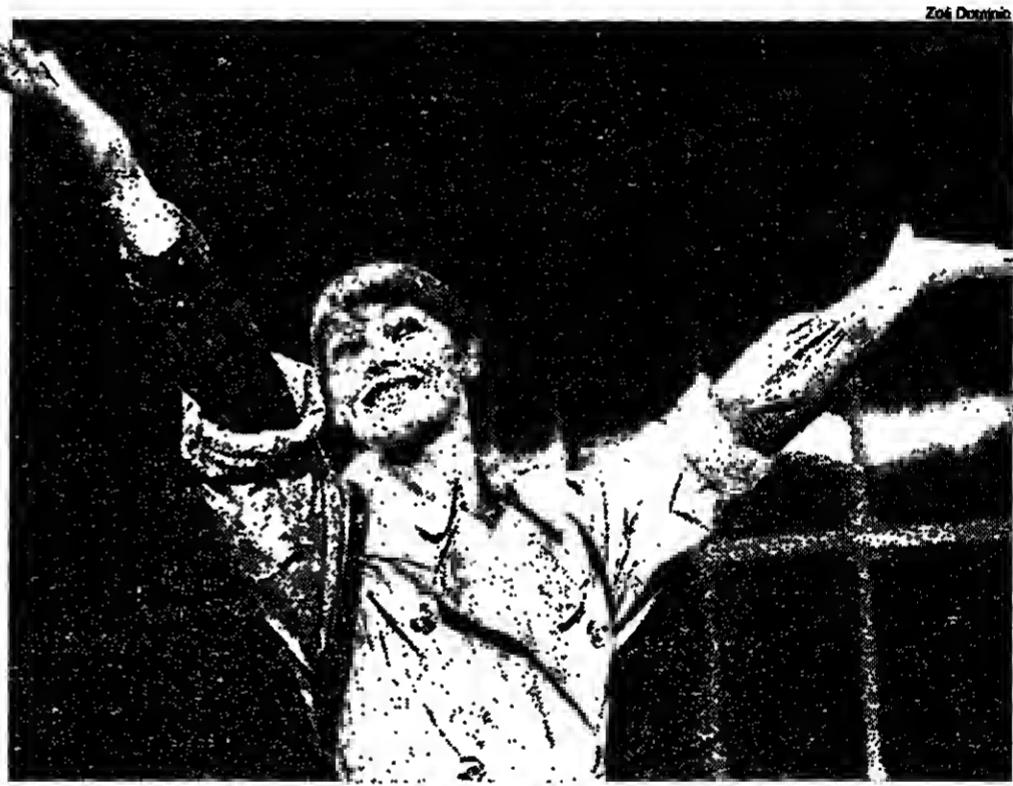
It is an episodic play about a woman's search for her own identity in the midst of an alien environment. The woman, Lotte, played by Glenda Jackson, struggles against a world lacking in morality and human spiritual values until she finds her own identity.

She believes that if the play had been done in its more natural home - the National or the Royal Court - the reaction would not have been so marked. "We are getting more and more of the play as we go on. We probably will not get it all to our satisfaction, but it is a play which is worth all the effort."

then on tour to Bristol, Swansea and the Broadfield House Glass Museum, near Stourbridge, Hereford and Worcester. Admission free.

Execution of Maximilian and Portrait of Eva Gonzales, are studied in detail, with related sketches and prints and background material, and there is a special section on the theme of Manet and war.

PREVIEW Theatre



Glenda Jackson, lost among the aliens: 'It is a play worth all the effort'

summer evening. Louise Jameson's lovely Rosalind holds the high comedy and the pathos in delicate balance, John Curry (Orlando) proves a champion wrestler and David Williams is a superbly distinguished Jacques.

Wend at 3pm, Sat at 5pm Denise Deegan's straight-faced recreation of a 1920s girls' school - all prize poems, hockey matches and Empire-building values - sends the world of Angela Brazill straight up and over the top. Thoroughly usable, nostalgic and wholesome.

John Osborne's epic about an officer in the Austro-Hungarian army, fighting his way through society to a top espionage job only to be blackmailed as a homosexual, comes up full of drama, colour and subtlety in Ronald Eyre's revival transferred from Chichester. Supporting Alan Bates in the central role, Harry Andrews as a veteran general and Michael Gough as a baron hosting Mozartian soirées in drag stand firmly as opposite poles in the Vienna that Lahar should have told us more about.

AS YOU LIKE IT Open Air, Regent's Park (486 2431) Last performances Thurs at 2.30pm and 7.45pm. In repertory with A Midsummer Night's Dream (today at 2.30pm, Fri at 7.45pm) and *Bashville* (today, Mon and Tues at 8pm; last performances Wed at 2.30pm and 8pm). Season ends Aug 27.

CHARLEY'S AUNT Alwaych (836 8404) Until Sept 24, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 2.30pm. *Cherish* (today, Mon and Tues at 8pm; last performances Wed at 2.30pm and 8pm). Season ends Aug 27.

THE COMEDY OF ERRORS Fri at 7.30pm Adrian Noble directs a new production, with Peter McEnery and Paul Greenwood

THE SCULPTURE SHOW Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London SE1 (828 3144). Until Oct 5, Mon-Thurs 10am-6pm, Fri and Sat 10am-6pm, Sun noon-6pm; Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (492 6075). Until Oct 9, Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat and Sun 10am-7pm. Admission free. It may not be the best, but it is certainly the largest: more works by more living sculptors (50 in all) than have ever been assembled in one show before in Britain. It occupies the whole of the Hayward and Serpentine galleries, as well as the South Bank Riverside walk and the parkland round the Serpentine.

THE COMEDY OF ERRORS Fri at 7.30pm Adrian Noble directs a new production, with Peter McEnery and Paul Greenwood

PHOTOGRAPHY BARBARA BAHAN AND ELIZABETH ZESCHIN Impressions Gallery, 17 Colindale Ave, York (0904 54724). Until Aug 27, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm. Barbara Bahan examines three areas of museum conservation - the Egyptian gallery at the British Museum, the harm that befalls historical sites when overrun by tourists and the misuse or otherwise of animal forms as exhibits - and comes to some interesting conclusions. Elizabeth Zeschin shows interesting and elegant portraits.

and an exceptionally satisfying dramatic experience. HAPPY FAMILY Duke of York's (836 5122) Mon-Thurs at 8pm, Fri and Sat at 5.45pm and 8.30pm Giles Cooper's clever, disturbing 1930s comedy about three grown-up siblings in a childhood ritual is still theatrically gripping and full of psychological and political nuance. Excellent direction by Maria Aitken of an impressive cast led by Ian Ogilvy and Angela Thorne.

MR CINDERS Fortune (836 2238) Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 5.30pm and 8.45pm; matinee Thurs at 3pm Packed with enchanting songs and boasting a witty performance by Denis Lawson of scrooge brilliance, Vivian Ellis's 1929 musical retells Cinderella in the anyone-for-tennis age.

A PATRIOT FOR ME Haymarket (930 9832) Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinee Sat at 2.30pm John Osborne's epic about an officer in the Austro-Hungarian army, fighting his way through society to a top espionage job only to be blackmailed as a homosexual, comes up full of drama, colour and subtlety in Ronald Eyre's revival transferred from Chichester. Supporting Alan Bates in the central role, Harry Andrews as a veteran general and Michael Gough as a baron hosting Mozartian soirées in drag stand firmly as opposite poles in the Vienna that Lahar should have told us more about.

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PREVIEW Galleries

Hillard and Oliver, are present in force, but the show has its discoveries as well, such as a female miniaturist, Levine Tearling, who would seem to have taught Hillard. Also at the V & A until Oct 30, the exhibition of Oliver Messel's interior and fabric designs

ROYAL ACADEMY SUMMER EXHIBITION Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1 (734 2471). Until Aug 28, daily 10am-6pm. Admission £2, £1 Mon-50p for all. One of the most popular events in the art world; 1,683 exhibits, so there should be plenty of talking points. Last week.

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A photographic record by the Financial Times of the path to Westminster trod by victors and vanquished alike. DAVID HOCKNEY'S PHOTOGRAPHS Knoedler Kasmin, 22 Cork Street, London W1 (439 1096). Until Aug 30 Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm For 15 months David Hockney has been making an assault on the monocular vision of contemporary photography. Each large finished piece in this exhibition is constructed from hundreds of 8in x 4in colour prints through which he has deliberately attempted to convey time and space in a way similar to the cubist painters by giving a multiple view of a single subject seen over a period of time. His experiments, he says, are attempts to push photography into new expressive areas.

ENTERTAINMENTS

What's new on the GLC South Bank? GLC South Bank Concert Halls, Belvedere Road, London SE1 8LX.

CREDIT CARDS Diners Club and American Express now welcome as well as Access and Barclaycard.

The GLC's South Bank Summer Music UNTIL AUGUST 28 The brilliant SIMON RATTLE's third year as Artistic Director

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL Sunday 21 August 5.30 pm Waterloo Rains. Robert Simpson talks about Sir John Goss's 'Symphonies 2 and 3'.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL Saturday 20 August 7.45 pm London Sinfonietta, Rattle, Alan (violin), Kim (violin), Mia (cello).

PURCELL ROOM Monday 22 August 6.30 pm The Songmakers' Almanac. Razzia (soprano), Jackson (baritone), Johnson (piano).

SOUTH BANK SUMMER FOLK Saturday 20 August 7.30 pm Pirelli Room, Royal Festival Hall. Nancy Anderson, Tony Carver, Maria Dunn, Chuck Fingert, Billy Mahoney, Wily Taylor.

AND THE GIL EVANS BAND A concert on August 26 with the great American jazz musician at the Royal Festival Hall.

Booking Information For full booking details and free leaflets, phone 01-928 3022.

The GLC and Victor Hochhauser present Paco Peña & Mario Maya Flamenco Company Direct from Spain.

JAZZ IN THE MUSIC BOX Overlooking the Thames. Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening until 28 August.

MODERN KOREAN CERAMICS Until 4 September. Royal Festival Hall, Riverside Terrace, Level 5.

TOM MERRIFIELD Royal Festival Hall Foyer until 28 August. An exhibition of sculpture, drawings, prints and etchings.

GUIDED TOURS OF THE ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL Daily at 12.45pm and 5.30pm. £1.00 per person.

THREE SMART NEW SHOPS In the Royal Festival Hall Foyer. Open from 11am to 10.30pm.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL Kensington SW7 2AP DAISY PULLS IT OFF Monday 22 August 7.00pm

THE SONGMAKERS' ALMANAC Patricia Rozario soprano, Anthony Rolfe Johnson tenor, Marilyn Hill tenor.

ZOLTAN KOCSIS piano Thursday 10 September at 7.30 pm

BRIGITTE FASSBENDER mezzo soprano Thursday 11 September at 7.30 pm

BARBICAN HALL Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2Y 8DS

WORLD PETROLEUM CONGRESS AT THE BARBICAN 22 AUGUST - 2 SEPTEMBER

RAYMOND GUBBY presents MASSES GUARDS BAND SPECTACULAR

VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents at the BARBICAN TOMORROW at 7.30 pm

PHILHARMONIA at the BARBICAN Monday 5 September at 7.45

OPERA & BALLET COLISEUM S 836 3161 or 240 6288

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سكربتات للاصل

PREVIEW Edinburgh Festival 1983

Plain elegance and pediments with a redolent past

During August, Edinburgh swells with the arrival of more than a million visitors. They tread the paths of many illustrious predecessors...

In 1847, Hans Christian Andersen's concern was less with smells than with squalor; for with the arrival of the New Town, all the quality had removed northwards...

An architectural guide to the city

Moran's House in Riddle's Close. "Mr Johnson sends his compliments to Mr Boswell" wrote the Doctor on August 14, 1773...

manotomy of the New Town. Thus dispensing with the plainly elegant Georgian facades, he then dismissed the magnificent collection of floridly pedimented neo-classical banks in George Street...

by Robert Adam in 1791. His influence was such that the plain Scottish Georgian buildings of neighbouring streets - particularly North Castle Street - were required, if they were to remain fashionable...



Historic skyline: Breathtaking as ever, but without most of the medieval splendour

THEATRE

The Festival's Vienna 1900 theme seems much more fruitful on the visual arts and music sides than in theatre, but in fact it has induced major theatre companies to come up with interesting rarities...

and ego trips and cabarets galore

The original eighteenth-century Assembly Rooms, now containing four auditoria, are, like last year, giving what amounts to a mini-festival in itself...

A. M.

While visitors to the world's film festivals complain about abused elbows, kicked shins and masterworks projected on to curtains, festival organizers have their own set of problems...

FILMS

Outside the retrospectives, perhaps the principal oddity is Samuel Fuller's White Dog (Thurs), an extraordinary drama drawn from Romain Gary's novel about a dog trained to attack blacks...

CONCERTS

What with the Vienna 1900 exhibition, a ballet version of Kokoschka with music by Schoenberg, and Zemlinsky opera, there is a strong Austrian presence at this year's festival...

Max Harrison

Opera at the Festival starts in the King's Theatre with a double bill by Zemlinsky, teacher and brother-in-law of Schoenberg, who wrote of him: "I do not know one composer after Wagner, who could satisfy the demands of the theatre better, or with more musical substance than Zemlinsky"

OPERA

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ROCK & JAZZ

Tenor saxophonists are the heavyweights of jazz, and none wails faster punch than George Coleman, an American post-bop improviser who grew up in Memphis with Booker Little, who preceded Wayne Shorter in Miles Davis's great quintet of the 1960s...

FRINGE THEATRE

Almost 500 groups on this year's Fringe will, as usual, be at it all hours of the day. The 72-page program Fringe programme is much too big to carry in anything but a knapsack...

Anthony Masters

Also in the last week, in another hall in the Assembly Rooms, the South African Poppie Nonenga Company, present their musical play of the same name. Solo or near-solo shows include Claire Bloom as Shakespeare heroine, Nigel Stock as Dr Watson and Alistair Cooke as his friend.

GALLERIES

For once, the visual arts are right at the centre of attention this year: the Vienna 1900 show in the new galleries at the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland is, in effect, the theme show of the whole festival, binding together a number of musical and dramatic events into a general homage to Vienna in its Art Nouveau heyday.

John Russell Taylor

Most screenings take place at Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Road, Edinburgh. (Box office 031 228 2688, though telephone bookings cannot be accepted.)

EVERYTHING TASTES OF CULTURE

Vienna at the turn of the century, including Klimt, Schiele, Kokoschka, Josef Hoffmann, Otto Wagner and Adolf Loos, as well as featuring a group of paintings by Schoenberg never before seen in this country...

FRINGE THEATRE

Also in the last week, in another hall in the Assembly Rooms, the South African Poppie Nonenga Company, present their musical play of the same name. Solo or near-solo shows include Claire Bloom as Shakespeare heroine, Nigel Stock as Dr Watson and Alistair Cooke as his friend.

DANCE

In the official programme, dance is confined to weeks two and three. This year's Tennent Caledonian Award commission is "Mörder Hoffnung der Frauen" ("Murderer, Hope of Women") with choreography by Glen Tetley, based on a play by Kokoschka. Nadine Baylis's designs are also after Kokoschka; the music is by Schoenberg. Ballet Rambert dance it (King's, Aug. 29-31 at 7.30pm and Aug. 30 at 2.30pm). Rambert's second programme (Sept 1-3 at 7.30pm and Sept 3 at 2.30pm) includes another premiere, for

PHOTOGRAPHY

The first retrospective in this country of American cult figure Robert Mapplethorpe can be seen at the South Gallery, 105 High Street until Sept 17, and forms the photography highlight of this year's festival. Prints on show include those of singer-poet Patti Smith, with whom Mapplethorpe lived for a number of years; the black male nude studies, plus the quietly erotic, almost fish-cold views of American musculature Lisa Lyon.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Today SPORT IN AID OF SPASTICS: The proceeds from a day of sports demonstrations go to the Spastics Society. Sports champions present include Sharon Davies, Liz Hobbs and Brian Jacks who invite spectators to join them swimming, water-skiing or doing judo after their shows. Queen Mother Sports Centre, Vauxhall Bridge Road, near Victoria Station, London SW1 (834 4725). 10am-4pm. Admission £5.

Tomorrow

BREADLINE BRITAIN: A new LWT/MORI survey examining society's attitude to poverty shows that one in six people in Britain today (about 8 million) cannot afford what society considers basic essentials for living. It is the first such survey for 15 years. Four programmes examining the lives of the poor begin by establishing a minimum standard of living today and identifying those likely to be poor. All ITV regions: noon-1pm.

Monday

JAMIE THE SAKT: The Scottish Theatre Company revival of Robert McLellan's play about James VI of Scotland, on tour before a run at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, in repertory with Macbeth. Ron Blain, Mark McManus, Gerda Stevenson, directed by Tom Fleming. Inverness Eden Court Theatre (0463 221718). Opens today at 7.45pm. Then Tues-Sat at 7.45. Until Aug 27.

Tuesday

ELECTRIC ICE: Ice-skating champions Robin Cousins, Allan Schramm, Bob Rubens, Brian Pooker, Edna Dotson and Angela Greenhow in a show combining skating, modern dance techniques and live rock music. Victoria Palace, Victoria Street, London SW1 (828 4736).

Wednesday

CHARLOTTE, EMILY AND ANNE: National Youth Theatre production, directed by Richard Howard, of a new play about the Brontë sisters. Jeannette Cochrane Theatre, Southampton Row, WC1 (242 7040). Opens today at 7pm. Then Thurs-Sat at 7.30pm; Aug 30-Sept 3 at 7.30pm.

Thursday

FOURTH TEST: This is the fourth and final Test. England are leading 2-1 and are already assured of a share in the series, although they will be hoping to make certain their victory. Trent Bridge, Nottingham, broadcast today on Radio 3, 10.45am-6.30pm; on BBC1 at 10.55am and 1.40pm; BBC2 at 4.15pm; highlights, BBC1 at 10.55pm.

Friday

KRAKATOA REMEMBERED: Exhibition of contemporary landscape photographs and drawings to mark the centenary of the eruption of the volcano on August 26, 1883, on the small island of Krakatoa, between Java and Sumatra. It was heard 3,000 miles away, had extraordinary meteorological effects around the world, and destroyed all plant and animal life on the island; it has now been recolonized. Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (688 8928). Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30-6pm. Until Oct 25. Free.

Saturday

TALES FROM HOLLYWOOD: New play by Christopher Hampton, seen in 1982 in Los Angeles, where it is set, although the period is the 1940s, and the subject is the colony of German writers working in Hollywood. Michael Gambon heads the cast. Peter Glenville. Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (228 2252). Preview today at 7.15. Then Aug 27, 29-31. Opens Sept 1.

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Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8EZ Telephone 01-337 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 735.7 down 3.2 FT Gilt 79.51 down 0.12 FT All Shares 463.82 down 1.92

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling 1.5189 down 55pts Index 85.7 up 0.2 DM 4.0350 up 0.02

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Bank base rates 9 1/2 Finance houses base rate 10

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): an \$419.10 pm \$417.75 close \$417.50-418.25 (\$275.5-276)

NOTEBOOK

After Anderson Strathclyde and Victor Products has produced the mining equipment sector's sparkling up, and Dobson Park and Dowdy had turned in the downs, with falling profits, Mining Supplies completed a strange picture in the sector yesterday by announcing that pretax losses last year increasing two-and-a-half times.

Call for central register of directors' contracts Angry pension funds seek changes to help limit golden handshakes

Big pension funds want a central register of directors' service contracts to be established by the National Association of Pension Funds to help stamp out hefty compensation payments.

A manager of one of the big funds said: "The problem is that we only hear about these contracts when the horse has bolted... These payments are getting beyond a joke and they are bringing the whole board system into disrepute."

But the funds argue that the difficulty is only a technical one which could be overcome given the will of all big shareholders to make it work.

Mount Charlotte in £21.5m expansion

Mount Charlotte Investments, the fast-growing hotels and catering group based in Leeds, is to buy two London hotels from Grand Metropolitan for £21.5m.

A finger in every City pie

Mr Michael Ashcroft one of the City's fastest-moving businessmen, now owns at least one share in every company quoted on the London Stock Exchange.

Surprise spurt in US recovery

The American economy is growing even faster than previously thought, according to revised figures published yesterday.

Waring & Gillow £300,000 in red

Waring & Gillow, the furniture and carpet retailer, which announced three months ago it had received a bid approach, slumped into the red last year.

Raper to fight takeover Panel ruling

The City Takeover Panel is heading for another confrontation with the financier, Mr Jim Raper, after ruling that his Saint Piran property company is obliged, under the takeover code, to make a £9.7m bid for Westminster Property Group.

Banks 'spent \$3bn to restrain dollar'

Central banks have spent more than \$3,000m in intervening in currency markets to hold back the United States dollar, Karl Otto Poehl, president of the German Bundesbank, said in an interview.

Lonrho to sue Fraser

Lonrho has started legal action against the House of Fraser group in an attempt to stop the proxy cards and voting papers cast on whether Harrods should become a separate company.

Western oil stocks 12% below winter level Opec may step up output

Oil ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) have brought forward the date of their next meeting on production quotas against the background of reports that the Western industrial world's oil stocks are up to 12 per cent below expected winter demand.

Dow lifts after early dip

New York (AP-DJ) - Stocks edged ahead with the Dow Jones industrial average up more than a point after a dip of three in early trading.

IMF calls off Caracas talks

Caracas (Reuters) - The leader of an International Monetary Fund (IMF) mission to Venezuela has postponed talks on an economic programme for Venezuela.

Waring & Gillow Waring & Gillow Year to 31.3.83 Pretax less £295,000 (profit £322,000)

For the 12 months to the end of last March, losses totalled almost £300,000 before tax against a £632,000 profit last year. However, the group has increased the total dividends for the year from 0.5p to 1.25p.

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BET Omnibus Services has announced the sale to British Electric Traction, its parent company, of Grayston, its wholly owned plant hire subsidiary. Consideration, based on Grayston's net asset value on March 31, this year was £20m.

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City Editor's Comment

Figuring out the numbers puzzle

The latest crop of economic figures is distinctly puzzling. If the mood in industry and in the country was different, they might indeed breed gloom and talk of the recovery petering out.

The most noticeable item was the cut in industrial production in June. This was not at all what was expected and has led to a number of explanations about changing seasonal patterns and, inevitably, if early, the weather.

However, figures for output in the second quarter confirmed the impressions. They showed gross domestic product on the output measure perversely stagnant.

Statistics, however, breed some doubt over what is happening in the shops. Retailers have been cutting their stocks, presumably because they were tardy to order more as the retail boom gathered strength.

TI sells steel tube offshoots for £3m

The TI Group has taken a further step in reducing its interest in steel and commodity tube by selling its steel tube stockholding subsidiaries.

MERCURY MONEY MARKET TRUST LIMITED OFFER FOR SUBSCRIPTION OF PARTICIPATING SHARES Shareholders of Mercury Money Market Trust Limited have approved resolutions enabling the Company to issue different classes of shares, in each of the currencies in the box below:

Letter

Defending safeguards for the investor

From Mr A. V. Alexander

Sir, Your editorial of August 13 suggests that the "important safeguards" provided by the Insurance Brokers Registration Act...

The sole reason given for this opinion is that you state that there is no effective "competence fund"...

Regrettably, under the present legislation it remains the case today that anyone may legally perform all the functions of an insurance intermediary...

The Act requires all registered insurance brokers to abide by a code of conduct and to be subject to the jurisdiction of a disciplinary committee...

Furthermore, the Registration Council, which I must point out is the disciplinary body for insurance brokers...

The Signal Life case is currently sub judice and it may well be that policyholders will obtain their redress through the courts...

Yours faithfully, A. V. ALEXANDER, Chairman, British Insurance Brokers' Association.

New roll-up fund

Yet another currency roll-up fund is available - this time from Manufacturers Hanover Group...

There is also a managed fund for those who prefer not to make their own currency decisions.

Investors earn money-market rates of interest on their investments. Because interest is rolled-up and not distributed, the "profit" is taxed as a capital gain rather than income.

It is also possible to switch between currencies quickly and usually without charge.

The annual management charge on the new Geofund is 0.75 per cent and there is no front-end charge. The fee on the managed fund is 1.5 per cent a year.

Help for travellers

From this week, members of Nationwide Building Society have been able to buy their travellers' cheques and foreign currency over the counter in 515 Nationwide branches.

In a link-up with Thomas Cook, Nationwide is offering sterling travellers' cheques on demand, with the US dollar, Deutschmark, French franc and Canadian dollar travellers' cheques obtainable on two to three days' notice.

But this new service will not save the customer any money. Unlike Leeds Permanent and several other societies which offer commission-free sterling travellers' cheques...

Student cover

Cover for students' belongings, for as little as £10 for £1,000-worth of goods, is available from West Midlands-based Brookhouse Insurance Brokers...

Mortgages guaranteed

Good news for house-buyers in the Manchester area - because of the huge growth in funds between January and June, the Middleton Building Society is still guaranteeing mortgages despite the general shortage of mortgage money.

Bonus rates raised

Scottish Amicable Life Assurance is increasing its terminal bonus rates for all individual with-profits policies for claims on maturity or death.

Table with 3 columns: Term, Percentage Addition, Previously. Rows for 10 years, 15 years, 25 years.

The above rates also apply to the Home Purchaser policy and for Flexipension or individual superannuation policies...

Making a million

"Making a million dollars is the simplest thing in the world", according to Mr Jerry Gillies, the American author of the bestselling book Moneylove.

Three things are required to become wealthy, according to Mr Gillies - a clear vision of what you want, a belief that you will get it and practical skills to put that belief into action.



Tax and jobs

The dead hand of the Inland Revenue leaves no stone unturned in its attempts to ensure that we all cough up.

Even the unemployed, those laid off, and employees on strike cannot escape the tax man's attentions. Now the Revenue has issued an updated series of leaflets for taxpayers in these categories.

Tax-free investment

Pensions boost for business expansion

The Government's new business expansion scheme has given an interesting stimulus to company directors and the self-employed who run their own self-administered pension funds.



John Bevan (left) and Mike Reynolds: Advising clients to increase their salaries

Messrs John Bevan and Mike Reynolds of James Hay Pension Trustees formed the idea of channelling funds raised by companies from the business expansion scheme...

Generally, they advise clients to increase their salary and invest 50 per cent of the increase in the pension scheme...

wanted the man to put everything he owned on the line, including house, car and business, and on top of that wanted a third of the equity and 51 per cent of the voting rights.

decision, we just check it out and say, "look are you interested in this?" Mr Bevan added.

The result has been a large number of enquiries from clients for projects to invest in.

"Fundamentally," Mr Bevan said, "a self-administered fund enables the businessman to maintain control over his own money."

Insurance

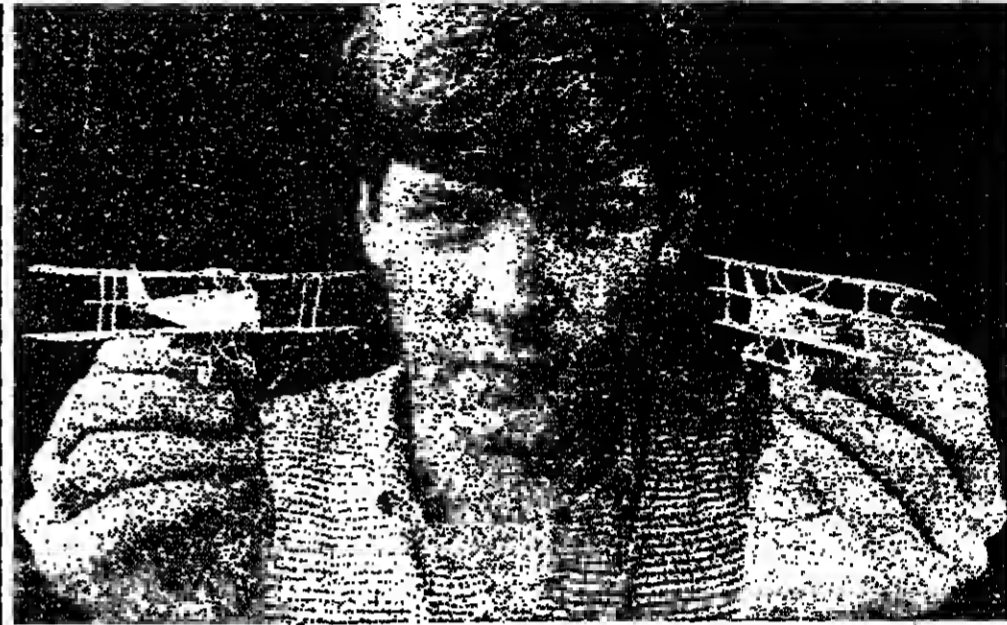
Off-the-road premiums to go up

After holding the cost of premiums for two years, St Christopher Motorists' Security Association is increasing them from September 1.

Three Star plan has increased from £48 to £64, with a maximum benefit of £3,000. Four Star plan goes up from £64 to £75, with a maximum benefit of £4,200.

St Christopher's managing director, Mr Martin O'Neill, said: "There are two reasons for these increases: one is the rise in costs over the last two years and, secondly, we operate SCMSA along prudent insurance lines and we believe the 1981 Transport Act, which introduced the penalty points system to replace the old, ineffective totting-up system, will result in more claims from members."

St Christopher provides cover in the event of disqualification following the accumulation of 12 penalty points; mandatory disqualification following a drink/driving conviction; inability to drive through injury received while driving; and financial loss due to an accident while driving.



Ready for takeoff: Challey Lambert with the silver models that put him in business

Start-up schemes

Silversmith's model idea

Making silver models was the hobby of Mr Challey Lambert, aged 20, but from now on it will be his full-time job. He is one of 20 winners in the "Head Start in Business" competition run by the Industrial Society in conjunction with the Abbey National Building Society.

Mr Lambert is a graduate of the St. John Case College where he studied gold and silversmithing.

He is now working on two silver chess sets for clients. "I can do anything but I like making models. I have enough work to last until the end of November and I am hoping to get some more lined up after that. I want to specialize in trophies and that type of thing."

How to turn £500 into £2,150 on the Stock Market in just six weeks

Early every Thursday morning a small number of extremely well informed investors quietly snap up whatever is available of certain shares. They act with speed and total confidence. Within days (sometimes even hours) they have reaped huge profits.

What you probably didn't know is that each week he chairs a private meeting of the SMC Board of Advisors. Together these financial specialists pool information, validate sources, and discuss the latest City whispers.

your £600 of shares are worth £1000 by November 4th, we'll make up the difference in cash. That's right, we're so confident that our advice is sound we believe that £600 will be worth £1000 in just four weeks.

Still more interest.

CHELTHENHAM GOLD 8.25% 11.79% net gross

Still no strings.

The Cheltenham & Gloucester is still the only major national building society to offer a full 1% extra interest with no strings at all.

CHELTHENHAM GOLD MONTHLY INTEREST.

Invest £5000 or more in a Cheltenham Gold Monthly Interest Account and we'll pay you extra interest monthly, direct to your bank. Better still, add the interest to your account each month and you'll earn the annual equivalent of

8.57% net* 12.24% gross*

At your branch. Or by post-Free.

You'll find your local branch in Yellow Pages. If there's no branch handy, use the coupon to open either of the Cheltenham Gold Accounts by Post. You can pay in or withdraw as you like. We pay the first class postage.

Whichever way you choose, it's your first step to total freedom.

Form with fields for name, address, and account details for Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society.

C&G Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society

Chief Office: Cheltenham House, Clarence Street, Cheltenham, Glos. GL50 3JR. Tel: 0242 36161

Advertisement for Times Newspapers Limited Classified Dept, FREEPOST, London WC1 8BR.

Advertisement for WARRING MY MAN JERRY LTD, 31-41 Broad St, Bristol, Jersey.

Table titled 'Base Lending Rates' listing rates for various banks like ABN Bank, Barclays, BCCI, etc.

Advertisement for SMC Growth Record 82/3, featuring a testimonial from Malcolm Craig and details about the investment service.

Advertisement for SMC Weekly Contents, listing features like 'Hot Tips', 'Investment Analysis', and 'Valuable Inside Information'.

Advertisement for SMC Free Book for First-Time Subscribers, offering a free book and a £1000 prize draw.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: 'مكتبة الأصيل'

FAMILY MONEY

Regular savers seeking a safe home for their money plus a high rate of return should be looking at building society subscription shares...

Saving Getting a higher return

Many of the smaller building societies traditionally offer an extra half per cent or more to investors above the recommended Building Societies Association ordinary share rate...

yourself to that level for the rest of the term; and the term is three years with no withdrawals allowed...

RETURN ON A £10 A-MONTH INVESTMENT IN A BUILDING SOCIETY/INSURANCE SCHEME

Table with columns: Meriden Building Society, Cash Value, Net Yield pa. Rows include 4 years and 1 day, 7 years, 10 years for various ages.

Retirement

Changes in pension rules make it easier for women to claim benefits

Nothing is more annoying for a married woman than to reach retiring age only to be told that she cannot get a pension until her husband retires too.

Yet that is what many thousands of women, who may have paid little or nothing by way of national insurance over the years, are being told.

As men retire at 65 and women at 60, there is not a problem for a woman five or more years younger than her husband. She gets a pension when she reaches 60.

Be that as it may, this is the penalty many have to put up with for not having worked, or for having chosen to pay the married woman's special low rate of national insurance contributions in years past.

However, things are changing. Most women can no longer choose to pay the lower stamp. Those who could, but have been away from work for more than two tax years, find that they now have to pay the full amount if they go back to work.

The reason for this is that where national insurance is paid for only a few years, a smaller than normal pension can be had in return.

stance, who paid just 10 years of contributions would get a pension of around 25 to 30 per cent of the full amount - £8 to £10 a week compared with the full £32.50.

It is not, therefore, too difficult for a woman who worked for a number of years before marriage then returns to work five years, say, before reaching 60, to accumulate the necessary national insurance payments for a pension of her own.

In addition, a woman who returns to work now starts to

A woman keeps any earnings-related pension of her own

build up some entitlement to an extra earnings-related pension, provided she is not in an approved company pension scheme.

What, then, will she get on retirement at 60? The main advantage is that she will not have to wait until her husband retires at 60 in order to get a pension. Because she has paid her own contributions, she will get her own pension, even if this is a lower amount. On top of this will be the earnings-related slice, and also any graduated pension which she may have amassed between 1961 and 1975.

But the bonus is that when her husband eventually does

retire, she will be able to exchange her own pension for one from her husband's contribution payments, if it will be higher than her own pension. The married woman's pension paid in this way is currently £19.70 a week.

This all means that a woman who is the same age as her husband, can have five years' pension of her own. A woman who is older than her husband will, of course, have more. This can be worth quite a lot of money. A 30 per cent pension comes to about £10 a week at present. That is £520 a year, or more than £2,500 over five years, not counting annual increases.

When a woman does swap her own pension for one from her husband, she keeps any earnings-related and graduated pension of her own, and adds this on top.

So, if you are within a few years of retirement and contemplating going back to work, it is worth bearing in mind that a couple of years in a job could make the difference between getting a pension and not getting one.

It may be worth checking how you stand as regards contributions with the DHSS. If you have worked in the past, you might be surprised to find that you are already in line for at least the minimum 25 per cent pension rate.

Ian McDonald

Insurance funds

Investing on the rebound for better interest

To turn an investment of £10,000 a year into £153,000 in 11 years, you may think, would require incredible luck or considerable investment skills.

Not so, if you use one of the oldest investment schemes in the book - investing each year in the worst performing unit trust or fund.

Past performance is no guarantee of the future, but the scheme does seem to work. Investment adviser, Mr Charles Fry recommends that clients use insurance company funds rather than unit trusts, as switching between the funds is cheaper than buying and selling unit trusts, and there is no danger of incurring a capital gains tax liability.

Utilized insurance company funds are also more tax efficient for those who pay higher rate tax, but want to take income from the investment. With the regular investment scheme you also get tax relief on the premiums, which again enhances the investment performance.

The figures in the tables are based on a one-off £10,000 investment in M & G flexible investment bonds which offer 16 funds to choose from and have a reliable track record on performance. Perhaps the most surprising aspect of the scheme is how badly you would have fared had you invested in the best performing funds.

You would have needed some nerve to persevere with the scheme from 1972 to 1974 when the stock market crashed, but since then, investing in the worst performing fund has produced steady and sometimes spectacular gains.

M & G FLEXIBLE INVESTMENT BONDS: WORST PERFORMANCE

An investment of £10,000 made on January 1, 1972, and switched on each ensuing January 1, into the worst performing M & G Bond Fund of the previous year.

Table with columns: Year, Fund, Amount invested at beginning of year, Value at end of year, Loss switching fee, Amount to be invested. Rows include 1972 Equity, 1973 Property, 1974 American, etc.

M & G FLEXIBLE INVESTMENT BONDS: BEST PERFORMANCE

An investment of £10,000 made on January 1, 1972, and switched on each ensuing January 1, into the best performing M & G Bond Fund of the previous year.

Table with columns: Year, Fund, Amount invested at beginning of year, Value at end of year, Loss switching fee, Amount to be invested. Rows include 1972 Recovery, 1973 Japan, 1974 Property, etc.

Mr Fry introduces an element of sophistication into the scheme by actively choosing the next year's fund rather than going straight into the worst performer.

There may come a time when a world economic crisis would make it sensible to run for cover by switching the whole investment into the cash fund, he says.

He also believes that investors should have the scheme managed. Otherwise they are liable to lose their nerve.

AVERAGE Return:

66.62% in one year.

In our August 1982 Investment Action Report, we drew our clients' attention to just FOUR recommended unit trusts. According to Planned Savings Statistics (August 1983), these were the performances of our recommended trusts:

Table with columns: Trust Name, Value of a £5,000 investment. Rows include GT Technology & Growth, Profitic North American, Legal & General Gilt Trust, Gartmore UK Smaller Companies Recovery.

It's worth noting that these trusts were ALL available at an exclusive 1% discount.

To judge how good these figures are, look at the returns in a building society over the same period. A £5,000 investment would have produced £353 for a basic rate taxpayer and even less for a higher rate taxpayer.

If you'd like to know what the Investment Action Report is recommending now, send for your free copy without delay.

N.B. It should be remembered that unit values can fall as well as rise. While past performance cannot necessarily be taken as a guide to the future, the skills of the management groups involved are clearly well above average.

To: Julian Gibbs Associates, 73RA 20A, a member of the Reed Steinhilber Group. FREEPOST, London SW1W 0BR (no stamp required). Tel: London: 01-730 8221. Aberdeen: 0224 640460. Bristol: 0272 294531. Edinburgh: 031-225 9528. Glasgow: 041-248 5070. Leeds: 0532 506116. Manchester: 061-831 7191.

Please contact me with a free copy of your latest Investment Action Report.

Form with fields for Name, Address, Country, Tel. No., Present Income, Date of Birth, Tax Rate, Lump sum amount available for investment, Amount available for regular savings, and a checkbox for 'Please tick box if you are already a client of Julian Gibbs Associates'.

JULIAN GIBBS ASSOCIATES

Are you married and over 50 years old?

Now there is a Building Society savings account exclusively for you, which can improve the return on your investment by as much as 36%

In the last two years interest rates have fallen steadily and this has been bad news for investors. Despite the small increase from July 1st, your interest would still have to leap by a further 34% to recover to levels paid on normal accounts just 17 months ago.

The new Leicestercard 50 Plus Account from the Leicester Building Society offers a

highly attractive way of reversing this trend. Compare the rates with the return from your present building society savings account. Then answer this question - why settle for lower interest rates when a switch to the Leicestercard 50 Plus Account will give your savings an immediate boost?

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For the first 4 years you have the option to take an income of 10% p.a. free of tax from your building society account* (if you are a basic rate taxpayer). This is equivalent to 14.28% gross.

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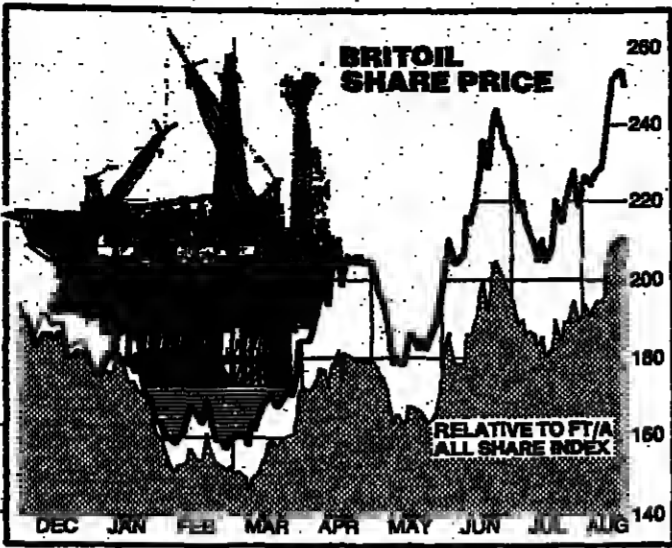
7 Bond Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands. Telephone: 05 34 76029. Telex: 4192269. Please send me a copy of the Prospectus of the Hill Samuel International Currency Fund Limited. Times 20/8/83

For copies of the Prospectus (on the terms of which applications may be considered) and the Application Form please use the coupon.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

Britoil in the shadow of BP

The possible sale of Britoil shares by the Government has been somewhat eclipsed by the prospect of a further tranche of state-owned shares in BP coming on the market.



Losses were £1.78m, against £715,000 last time, on a turnover down slightly to £63.8m. Interest charges were up from £1.74m to £2.2m.

The dividend was held at a nominal 0.1p, and shareholders should not be optimistic about what this year has in store.

It has been an unhappy year for the company, although the precise reasons are obscure because Mining Supplies demonstrates a reluctance, surprising in a publicly-quoted company, to divulge details.

The mining supplies division had been said, at the half-way stage, to have been in profit, but the Laurence Scott electric motor producer had pulled the group into loss after several years of strong growth.

Both divisions have laid off workers, the Laurence Scott division produced a trading profit after the first-half losses. The improvement is said to be continuing in the first quarter of the current year, and should be maintained.

The upturn stems from greater manufacturing efficiency, partly the result of redundancies, and an orderbook fattened by stronger demand for high quality specialist rotating machines and defence equipment.

To be fair, a good part of Laurence Scott's problems was the £1m trading loss caused by a "dramatic" fall-off in demand in low tension control gear.

But the mining supplies division results, were depressed by the recession in coal-mining. On present showing, however, the mining supplies division holds the key to recovery.

There is a chance that gold mines will come back into favour. A stagnant gold price and the feeling that the shortage of supply in South Africa had pushed quality issues up to rather high levels are giving way to the possibility that bullion will gain in the last quarter of the year, and that a medium-term re-rating of the mines could be appropriate.

Mining Supplies, the dark-horse of the North Sea, has produced mixed results for the past financial year, yesterday announced pretax losses two-and-a-half times higher for the 12 months to the end of April.

Rockware Group

Rockware Group Pretax loss 28.5m (loss £484,000) Stated loss 38.58p (loss 2.81p) Turnover 257.8m (£80.2m) Net dividend nil Share price 25p down 4p

There was champagne all round at Rockware Group yesterday, the outgoing chairman and chief executive, Mr Jim Craigie, was celebrating his birthday and Rockware had just raised £9.6m to ease its precarious financial position.

Rockware says its banks were nowhere near pulling the plug and had put up £5m of what it calls "non-financing" support. Payment of this loan will eat up half the cash raised.

Half-year figures, also published yesterday, show a loss of £8.5m but Rockware is adamant that it will be asking for no more money from its shareholders and the balance of £4.6m will be enough to see it through.

It has raised the £9.6m through an issue of 10-million 7.7 per cent convertible preference shares among 16 big shareholders, including Pilkington Brothers, which has a 19.5 per cent stake. Other shareholders will be able to subscribe for up to one quarter of the

shares and the 16 shareholders will scale their entitlement down pro rata. Rockware and its advisers are also adamant that the big shareholders receive no privileged information before agreeing to take their shares. Meanwhile, the shares have dropped to a new low of 25p, their nominal value.

It is still too early to be sure that Rockware is back on even keel. On the latest figures only the turnover shows an improvement, with engineering holding its losses. But if Mr Craigie has done his sums correctly the second half performance should be considerably better than the first - perhaps even reaching breakeven point. This should make Sir Peter Parker's job easier when he returns from British Rail as Rockware's chairman on September 14. But there is no chance of a dividend payment yet.

Rockware is convinced that it has rationalized capacity ahead of the pack. But so far, price increases have not just failed to stick but have instead been hit by heavy discounting.

Mining Supplies

Mining Supplies Year to 30.4.83 Pretax loss £1.78m (£715,000) Stated loss 6.8p (1.9p) Turnover £63.8m (£24.2m) Net dividend 0.1p Share price 38p Yield 0.4% Dividend payable 4.10.83

Mining Supplies, the dark-horse of the North Sea, has produced mixed results for the past financial year, yesterday announced pretax losses two-and-a-half times higher for the 12 months to the end of April.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Table with columns for company names and financial data. Includes W. G. Allen and Sons (Tipton), Leshurtime International, Charles Baynes, Benford Concrete Machinery, Wholesale Fittings, Dome Canada, and Saxon Oil.

Japan's banks close on Saturday at last

Tokyo (AP-Dow Jones) - Japan's banks have taken more than a decade to agree to close one Saturday a month.

They shut their doors last Saturday, and henceforth will close on the second Saturday of every month.

Through this once-a-month elimination of the traditional half-day of work on Saturdays, banks became the latest industry to join a gradual shift to a two-day weekend.

But the delays illustrate the ties among government, industry and industry associations in Japan, and the way of consensus.

Although the Federation of Bankers' Associations of Japan began studying the possibility of Saturday holidays in 1972, action had to wait until April 1982, when a revised banking law went into effect.

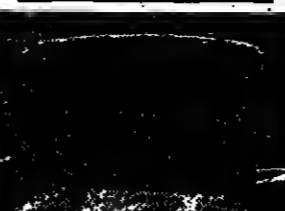
In theory, any one bank could have decided by itself to take action, but none was willing to do so, perhaps because it might have put itself at a competitive disadvantage.

Instead, the federation coordinated discussions, study and finally preparation for the two-day weekend.

The main problem was the Government's Postal Savings Bureau, whose savings and demand accounts at post offices command about 30 per cent of all personal savings.

Commercial banks decided they could not close Saturdays if the post office bank remained open. The result was an - all or none - view.

EQUESTRIANISM



Swiss go first after the dressage

From Jenny MacArthur Frauenthal, Switzerland Hansel Schmutz from Switzerland, the defending individual gold medal winner, rode a superb test in yesterday's dressage phase of the European three-day event championship riding Oran and much to the delight of the enthusiastic home crowd, have gone into the lead.

Schmutz's score of 29.80 was a tremendous boost to the Swiss team score and they are now lying in first place, followed by the German.

The British, who are equal third with the Poles, will have to do well in today's speed and endurance phase if they are to retain their European title.

Green's favourite discipline and she and the plucky Australian-bred Regal Realm, owned by S. R. Direct Mail, gave the impression, when riding the test, that they cannot wait for it to be over. It is in today's cross country that they show their true colours.

Regal Realm put his best foot forward and his relaxed and obedient temperament earned him a respectable 50.60 points.

The mark revealed an extraordinary inconsistency in the judging. The Swiss judge, Anton Buchler, gave them 1.94 marks which was 18 less than the Italian judge, Fabio Mangili, and 47 less than the Polish judge, Andre Orlosz, who appeared to be over-generous.

Virginia Holgate, the last of the British team to perform their dressage, rode a good, active test on British National Insurance's Night Cap, and her mark of 40.40 seemed harsh. Miss Holgate used to have a problem preventing Night Cap from becoming over-excited before the dressage, and yesterday the problem looked like returning.

Two fences which are causing some concern to the riders are the coffin, which has a big, starting ditch between the two fences and the Banker. The latter, used at the end of the course, has to be banked. The worry is that some horses, if going fast, may try and fly it, which would be disastrous because of the steep drop the other side.

It would be unrealistic to expect anything better than third place for Britain's men and fourth for the women on the evidence of statistics; but the home crowd, swelled by the impact and success of last week's event, could be a tiding force.

It was last time the cup was held in Britain (the only country to stage it twice) was in 1973 in Edinburgh, where the men finished fourth and the women fifth, better than they had ever done, and started the recent impressive record in the competition which culminated in overall third last time.

Rivals for the last decade of Britain's men and women have been the West Germans and the national struggle will find no happier focus than in the men's 800 metres and steeplechase.

ATHLETICS

Third and fourth would spell success for Britain

Steve Cram's victory in the 1,500 metres, the blue ribbon event of the world championships in Helsinki, has made him the big man on the athletics scene. But his contribution to the British team's effort in this weekend's European Cup at Crystal Palace will be strictly on a par with that of his colleagues.

Cram is expected to win and anything less than the eight points that brings will be a blow to Britain's hopes of repeating the success of third place behind the unapproachable Soviets and East Germans in Zagreb in 1981.

That was Britain's best-ever performance in the competition which began on a biennial basis in 1965; and it was a success based as much upon the unexpected victory of Mark Hollom in the hurdles and the third placed Keith Stock in the pole vault as on Allan Wells, Sebastian Coe and Dave Moorcroft's wins in the 100, 800 and 5,000 metres.

Similarly, success at Crystal Palace will depend on the number of points that Geoff Parsons, for example, can steal from men who are better on paper than he is in the high jump.

Parsons's omission from the world championships team was one of the British selectors' big mistakes. While they were deliberating over who should be the third runner in this and that event, Parsons, who is by far the best high jumper in Britain, was denied a team place because he was only a short of a qualifying standard.

Every country was permitted at least one competitor per event in Helsinki who had attained the B standard and Parsons easily qualified with his best jump this season, a British record at 2.25 metres. The experience that the 19-year-old could have gained from Helsinki is immeasurable and would have stood him in good stead for today's competition against the world's best.

The calendar collision with the world championships could turn out to the advantage of the European Cup from the point of view of high-class performances. The European "Bruno Zauli" Cup, named after its initiator, was destined for London in mid-August long before the first world championships were mooted. The early rounds were waived and finalists were decided on the previous results in deference to the world championships; but the top form that athletes reached for Helsinki will carry over to this weekend.

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Rivals for the last decade of Britain's men and women have been the West Germans and the national struggle will find no happier focus than in the men's 800 metres and steeplechase.

Whitehaven will have their right to first division status severely questioned by Wigan and Bradford Northern.

In the second division, the greatest interest will be centred on the opening day of Kent Invicta, who play Cardiff City at Maidstone. Invicta hope for a crowd of around 8,000. They hope, in later matches, to settle down to a regular home attendance of around 3,500, which would be commercially acceptable.

Cardiff City will be in no mood to give way to the newcomers since David Watkins and his team are determined to make an impact on the second division this season.

Cardiff, struggling on despite crippling financial problems, have a home game with their Cambrian neighbours, Wokingham Town. The local derby should at least put money into their empty coffers.

Minor counties championship 1983 Worcester v Northampton; Northants v Cornwall; Gloucestershire v Warwickshire; Leicestershire v Devon; Somerset v Dorset; Devon v Cornwall; Devon v Cornwall; Devon v Cornwall.

Second international match Scotland v England Young Cricketers v Australia Young Cricketers

Under-25 competition final Gloucestershire v Leicestershire (11.0 start)

Minor counties championship 1983 Worcester v Northampton; Northants v Cornwall; Gloucestershire v Warwickshire; Leicestershire v Devon; Somerset v Dorset; Devon v Cornwall; Devon v Cornwall; Devon v Cornwall.

RUGBY LEAGUE

The entertainment revolution goes into action

The curtain goes up this weekend on what may be the most exciting and revolutionary season since the breakaway years at the turn of the century. A host of new international laws come into force, designed to speed up the game, emphasise attack, fluidity and movement.

In addition, the performances of referees will be closely monitored by assessors, the play-the-ball rule will be rigidly enforced, and it is hoped that the ban on movement of players between Australasia and Great Britain will be ended. Further expansion of the game comes with the launching of Kent Invicta at Maidstone tomorrow.

The most important of the new laws make a try worth four points instead of three; give the field and loose head to the non-offending side at a scrum; force the release of the ball to the opposition if a player is held on the sixth tackle, and strengthen the offside law by making players remain outside until the ball is passed clear of the play-the-ball movement.

Rugby League officials are enthusiastic about the anticipation of the new season. David Oxley, the secretary general, says: "The game can now be played at a tremendous pace, and will be more spectator friendly."

David Hower, the public relations officer, comments: "The new laws were brought in as part of a drive to reward attacking play and increase spectator enjoyment."

In common with other spectator sports, Rugby League suffered a small decline in attendances last season after nearly a decade of continuing growth. It is firmly agreed that the new, speeded-up game will bring back the crowds.

Crystal Palace timetable

Table with columns for Today and Tomorrow, listing events and times. Includes Opening ceremony, Women's discus, Women's high jump, etc.

Other matches: Bristol City v Brentford; Chelsea v Queens Park Rangers; Oxford United v Reading; Walsley v Fulham; Walsley v Oxford.

Alliance Premier League: Altrincham v Macclesfield; Barrow v Warrington; Burnley v Bolton; Carlisle v Grimsby; Gillingham v Luton; Hartlepool v Lincoln City; Huddersfield v Rochdale; Ipswich v Northampton; Millwall v Southend; Notts County v Peterborough; Rotherham v Shrewsbury; Scunthorpe v Doncaster; Torquay v Exeter City; Walsley v Fulham; Walsley v Oxford.

Scottish premier division Aberdeen v Dundee; Dundee United v Motherwell; Hibernian v Celtic; Rangers v St Mirren; St Johnstone v Hearts.

Scottish first division Alloa v Falkirk; Ayr United v Kilmarnock; Brechin v Raith; Clyde v Partick; Dunfermline v City of Dumbarton; Hamilton v Airdrie; Meadowbank v Morton.

Scottish second division Albion Rovers v Queen's Park; Berwick v Queen's Park; Cowdenbeath v Dundee United; East Fife v Montrose; East Stirling v Stirling; Forfar v Arbroath; Queen of the South v Stranraer.

Other matches: Altrincham v Macclesfield; Barrow v Warrington; Burnley v Bolton; Carlisle v Grimsby; Gillingham v Luton; Hartlepool v Lincoln City; Huddersfield v Rochdale; Ipswich v Northampton; Millwall v Southend; Notts County v Peterborough; Rotherham v Shrewsbury; Scunthorpe v Doncaster; Torquay v Exeter City; Walsley v Fulham; Walsley v Oxford.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices including London Metal Exchange, Copper, Tin, Lead, Zinc, Aluminium, Nickel, Silver, Gold, Wheat, and various oils.

WALL STREET

Table of Wall Street stock prices including NYSE, AMEX, and various international indices.

CRICKET: SLOW MAN FOR YORKSHIRE, NEW QUICK MAN FOR ENGLAND

Rebuke leaves Boycott angry

By Richard Streeton

Yorkshire announced in an official statement yesterday that they had reprimanded Geoffrey Boycott for his scathing attack on Gloucestershire at Cheltenham last Saturday...

England recall Randall and send for Thomas

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

Their collective conscience pricked perhaps by having left him out of the third Test match against New Zealand, the England selectors have brought back Derek Randall for the fourth starting at Trent Bridge...

Of the other faster bowlers, Neil Williams, the young St Vincentian now with Middlesex, probably came as close as anyone to being chosen...

England 12

RGD Williams (Wor, cap) 11, JG Wright (Som) 11, NGB Cook (Leic) 11, ND Cowans (Midd) 11, WJ Gooch (Som) 11, D Gower (Leic) 11, A J Lamb (North) 11, S J Rhodes (Som) 11, C L Smith (War) 11, J Lewis (Som) 11, R W Taylor (Derby) 11, D Thomas (Surrey) 11

CHELMSFORD: The New Zealanders beat Essex by 48 runs. The New Zealanders scored an encouraging victory, their fourth in successive away B country tests...

Table with 2 columns: Player, Runs. Includes names like T O'Connell, J O'Connell, J O'Connell, etc.

England 10 for a lead

It was emphatically England's day in the second young players' international matches at Scarborough yesterday, when they battled all day against Australia to score 274 for nine in their second innings...

Table with 2 columns: Player, Runs. Includes names like J E Morris, M J Morris, etc.

SECOND XI COMPETITION

Table with 2 columns: Team, Score. Includes teams like Northants, Leicestershire, etc.

Ireland miss the boat

By Alan Gibson

I used to know Irish cricket quite well. That was in the days of O'Riordan, of Old Belvedere, a notable all-rounder, and Callaghan, of St. Albans, an excellent wicket-keeper who nearly came in Gloucestershire...

Lees was soon gone, which made matters worse and Snedden was obliged to drop anchor for 78 minutes as he ran out of partners...

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Victory at last for the British

By Barry Fickthall



Conducted tour: Ballesteros pays courier to Jacklin. (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Waites leans heavily on a club lent by a club member

By Mitchell Platt

Brian Waites has spent so much time on the circuit this season that the standing joke at Hollinwell, where he is the club professional, is to tell him that caddies are not allowed in the clubhouse...

Parkin mutes youth's anguish

By John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent

If first reactions are to be trusted, the ranks of young golfers in this country are being decimated. Certainly, there were a number who emerged from the recorder's at the British youths' championship at Sunningdale yesterday...

Haynie sticks her neck out

By John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent

Shaker Heights, Ohio (Reuters) - Sandra Haynie shared the lead with a two-under-par 70 yesterday after the first round of the 200,000 dollar women's world championship...

Pinnell realises potential

By John Nicholls

Ian Pinnell and Jeremy Hartley ended a National 12 team championship week in the best possible way by winning both the final race and the overall points trophy at Landisdown yesterday...

FOR THE RECORD

Table with multiple columns: Sport, Name, Details. Includes sections for TENNIS, BASEBALL, FOOTBALL, RUGBY UNION, ATHLETICS, HOCKEY, YACHTING, and BADMINTON.

Ferris on stand-by

George Ferris, Leicestershire's 18-year-old fast bowler, has been placed on stand-by for West Indies tour of India. The Antiguan who is in his first season of county cricket, championship matches.

BOWLS

Bell takes toll of Bone

John Bell, aged 35, of Wigton, Cumbria, won the singles title in the English national championships sponsored by the Gateway Building Society, at Beach House Park, Worthing, yesterday. In the final, he beat Kevin Bone, aged 20, of Gosforth, Northumberland, 11-13 in 25 ends and two extra hours.

IN BRIEF

Call-up for Collins

Grace Road today. Addition played in the John Player League match against Warwickshire last weekend. John Collins, for his part in his trip to Ireland on September 3, Collins played one game on permit from Cross Keys last season at Old Deer Park but left the field with an injured ankle. He has three more years of studies in London to run and London Welsh expect to see him in their side this season.

CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING

Braund moves on

Ron Braund, Scotland's director of swimming for the past four years, has resigned to take up a new appointment outside the sport. Braund, who was coach to the Scottish Commonwealth Games team in Brisbane last year, has returned to his previous field of engineering with a new post in Oman.

CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING

HOLMBURY: British shoot championship Sunday. The British shot championship Sunday at Holmbury St Giles, Surrey, 50 out of 100. Women's R. Enoch (Surrey) 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

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FOOTBALL

Psychological advantage lies with United

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The Seventy-fifth Charity-Shield opens the football season at Wembley today... Psychological advantage lies with United... The Seventy-fifth Charity-Shield opens the football season at Wembley today...

Cowans setback for Villa

Aston Villa's plans for the new season have been dealt a severe blow, following the serious injury sustained by Gordon Cowans in a friendly tournament in Spain... Cowans: broken leg



Cowans: broken leg

West Ham are poised to sign the defender, Steve Wallford, from Newcastle... Aston Villa's plans for the new season have been dealt a severe blow...

New firm are back and mean bigger business

Hopes are high in Scotland that the quality of football in the premier division which kicks off today will be even better than it was last year... New firm are back and mean bigger business

IN BRIEF

Sydney's black future

The New Zealand Rugby Union are the odds-on favourites to beat Australia and retain the Bledisloe Cup in Sydney today... Sydney's black future

Motor racing: Kees Rosberg, the world motor racing champion, is staying with the Williams team in 1984... Sydney's black future

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND World Leaders in Cancer Research

BOOK PUBLISHER invites Authors to send manuscripts...

BIRTHS ANCHER - On August 18 in Jane and...

MARRIAGES BURDICK-SABER, On July 23, 1983...

DEATHS ADAMS - On August 17th after a short illness...

WOLSTENHOLME - On August 10th at the Church of St. Vincent...

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Saturday

Television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

Sunday

BBC 1

- 6.25 Open University (until 8.30) Structural power, 8.05 Who's Going to Manage?, 7.15 Science of Social...

tv-am

- 8.25 Good Morning Britain with Toni Arthur and John Nossels. Includes news at 7.00 and 8.00...

ITV/LONDON

- 8.25 LWT Information: what's on in the area; 8.30 Sesame Street: learning with the Muppet...

BBC 2

- 6.25 Open University (until 8.30) Saturday Science: The Sealers (1954) Drama, set in New Zealand...

CHANNEL 4

- 2.46 Film: The Vintage W C Fields (1977) Highlights from many of the great comedian's earlier films...

BBC 1

- 6.25 Open University (until 8.55): 8.00 Camberlain Green (r); 8.15 Knock Knock: The...

tv-am

- 7.15 Rub-a-Dub-Tub: for the younger viewer. Police horses; cartoons; stories; and a two-sided story...

ITV/LONDON

- 6.25 LWT Information: what's on in the area; 8.30 Play Better: Squash Hiddy Jahan and John Easton...

BBC 2

- 6.25 Open University (ends at 6.50). Then from 7.15 until 1.55. Sunday Grandstand: Three big sporting events...

CHANNEL 4

- 2.35 Film: Forsaking All Others (1934) Romantic comedy with Joan Crawford as the jilted woman...



Roy and Elaine Bragg in their Manchester home: they can be seen in Grandstand Britain (ITV, 12 noon)

Radio 4

- 6.25 Shipping Forecast. 6.30 News: Farming Today. 6.50 In Perspective: Religious affairs...

TONIGHT'S PROM

- 7.30 Bernstein: Overtures. Candide. Copland: Quiet City. Copland: Suite - Billy the Kid...

Radio 3

- 7.55 Weather. 8.00 News. 8.05 Auldrie Music by Dvorak (Violin Concerto No 1).

Radio 1

- News on the half hour until 12.30 pm. 2.30, 4.30, 5.30, 7.30, 8.30, 10.00 and 12.00. 1.10 News: 1.10 News: 1.10 News...

WORLD SERVICE

- 6.00am Newsweek. 6.30 Alarm Time. 7.00 World News. 7.00 News About Britain. 7.15 From the Weekends...

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SAC

- Starts 2.00pm. Usher. 2.15 Mennopause. 2.30 A Search of Paradise. 4.10 Making The Most Of...

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

- HTV WEST As London except: starts 8.20pm Sesame Street. 10.30-12.15pm Film: Three Hens For Lisa...

SCOTTISH

- As London except: 8.25am Storytime. 8.35 A Tomorrow's Duet. 10.05 Metal Mickey. 10.30-12.15pm Film: Wauling Trees...

BORDER

- As London except: starts 8.20pm Sesame Street. 10.30-12.15pm Film: Wauling Trees...

YORKSHIRE

- As London except: starts 8.20pm Sesame Street. 10.30-12.15pm Film: Wauling Trees...

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Canada's heritage alive and well and living in Woolwich



A vital part of Canada's heritage, including photographs, maps, music and books missing for many years, has been found in the recesses of the Woolwich Arsenal depository of the British Library (Christopher Warman writes).

Among the most evocative of the items are the 5,000 photographs, from portraits of famous Canadians, including Mary Pickford (right), to scenes of ordinary people at work and play and studies of ethnic groups.

including 1,400 insurance plans made by a Canadian called Goad, which provide a record hitherto incomplete because the public archives of Canada holds fewer than 500 of them.

copies were deposited in libraries in Canada and a third in the British Museum library. The Canadian copies were lost in a series of fires.

New attempt to lift the Alexander L Keilland

An attempt is to be made within the next four weeks in raise the wreck of the North Sea oil rig, Alexander L Keilland, which sank four years ago with the loss of 123 lives.

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recalls that the new attempt is dangerous. A Norwegian company has been awarded the contract to be supervised by Det Norske Veritas (DNV), the stake certifying agency.

Russian missile

Continued from page 1 defences, which was published earlier this year. Some defence experts fear moves by the two superpowers towards mobile long-range missiles will mark a further escalation of the arms race.

Weather

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Today's event

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Gardens open

TOMORROW: Aberdeenshire: the Beechgrove Garden, BBC Broadcasting House, Beechgrove Terrace, Aberdeen; BBC television garden, George Barron and Jim McColl in attendance; 11 to 6.

Anniversaries

Birth: Benjamin Harrison, 23rd president of the USA (1793-93) was born at North Bend, Ohio, 1833.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,213

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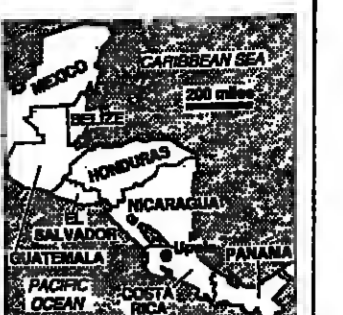
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Letter from Costa Rica

Commander Zero's border war of fear

One morning recently Señor Franklin Valeria Zuñiga rose early to walk the 10 miles on the dirt road from his small farm near the Nicaraguan border with Costa Rica to the Colegio de Upala, the local secondary school.



He added, "I know that I am writing my death sentence, and that from this moment they will be looking for me to assassinate me as they have done with other people."

Señor Pastora is well-known to Upala residents, most of whom are Nicaraguans who sought safety over the border during the Somoza dictatorship.

They can do what they want to the school building but not to our children", Señor Valeria said.

But now relations have soured. Some Costa Rican volunteers have been killed and many more have deserted bringing back tales of shortages, poor training and disorganization among the guerrillas.

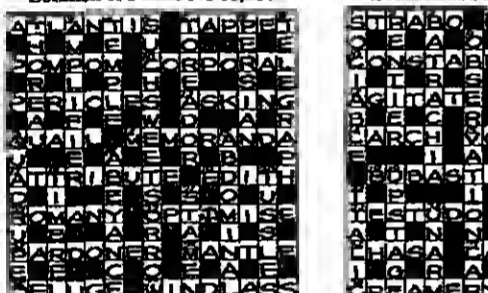
West Germany said postponement of the missile deployment would endanger an agreement.

Although government officials have pledged to guarantee the peace and tranquility of Upala, just how they intend to do so remains to be seen.

Martha Honey

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Solution of Puzzle No 16,207



Solution of Puzzle No 16,212



Today's event

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Weather

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